



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

Bill Number:	H. 4837	Amended by the House of Representatives on March 10, 2022
Author:	Elliott	
Subject:	Optometry Mobile Units	
Requestor:	House Labor, Commerce, and Industry	
RFA Analyst(s):	Coomer	
Impact Date:	March 24, 2022	Updated for Additional Agency Response

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill provides additional requirements for the operation of optometry mobile units.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) and the Board of Examiners in Optometry (board), under LLR, is undetermined because the agency is unable to estimate the number of mobile optometry unit permits that may be requested upon passage of this bill.

The revenue impact of this bill on LLR and the board is undetermined because the agency is unable to estimate the number of mobile optometry unit permits that may be requested upon passage of this bill.

This bill may result in an increase in optometry services for Medicaid by making it easier for students to obtain care. While the amount of the increase for the Medicaid program is undetermined, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) does not anticipate a significant impact to the program.

This bill will increase General Fund revenue by an undetermined amount because the expenditure impact of this bill on LLR is undetermined. Pursuant to Proviso 81.3 of the FY 2021-22 Appropriations Act, LLR is required to remit annually to the General Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of expenditures.

This impact statement has been updated to include a response from HHS.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Updated for Additional Agency Response on March 24, 2022

Amended by the House of Representatives on March 10, 2022

State Expenditure

This bill provides additional requirements for the operation of optometry mobile units. Currently, an optometrist may obtain registration for a mobile unit from the board, and the mobile unit is limited to providing services to licensed health care facilities within the State. This bill allows for a mobile unit to additionally provide services at the site of a Title 1 public school to the students

attending the school, provided that the services are rendered as part of a not-for-profit program. The bill further requires the operator to submit a permit application and fee in the manner set forth by the board and undergo an initial inspection. The permit must be renewed annually upon the payment of a renewal fee and undergoing an annual inspection. The mobile unit is additionally subject to periodic unannounced inspections by the board. The bill details further duties of the board and requirements for mobile units that the operator must adhere to.

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. LLR is unable to estimate the expenditure impact for this bill because the number of mobile optometry unit permits that may be requested upon passage of this bill is undetermined. Currently, the board has issued two permits for mobile optometry units. If the number of requested permits remains low, LLR anticipates no expenditure impact to the agency to support the program and perform initial, annual, and random inspections. If the number of requested permits is high, LLR may need to reevaluate the staffing needs of the board. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on LLR and the board is undetermined.

Department of Health and Human Services. This bill may result in an increase in optometry services for Medicaid by making it easier for students to obtain care. While the amount of the increase for the Medicaid program is undetermined, HHS does not anticipate a significant impact to the program.

This section of the impact statement has been updated to include a response from HHS.

State Revenue

This bill requires that an operator submit to the board an initial application fee and annual renewal fees to operate a mobile clinic. Because the number of requested permits is undetermined, the revenue impact of this bill on LLR and the board is undetermined.

Furthermore, the board falls under the Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing. Pursuant to Proviso 81.3 of the FY 2021-22 Appropriations Act, LLR is required to remit annually to the General Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of expenditures. Because the total increase in expenditures to LLR and the board is unknown, the total revenue increase to the General Fund is undetermined.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

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State Expenditure

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Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. LLR is unable to estimate the expenditure impact for this bill because the number of mobile optometry unit permits that may be requested upon passage of this bill is undetermined. Currently, the board has issued two permits for mobile optometry units. If the number of requested permits remains low, LLR anticipates no expenditure impact to the agency to support the program and perform initial, annual, and random inspections. If the number of requested permits is high, LLR may need to reevaluate the staffing needs of the board. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on LLR and the board is undetermined.

Department of Health and Human Services. We have reached out to HHS to determine if this bill will have an impact on the Medicaid program. Therefore, the expenditure impact is pending, contingent upon a response.

State Revenue

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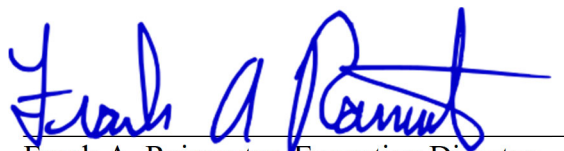
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Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director