

## SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

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.

S. 0612 Introduced on March 8, 2023 **Bill Number:** 

Shealy Author:

Subject: Child Welfare

Requestor: Senate Family and Veterans Services

RFA Analyst(s): **Boggs** 

Impact Date: March 27, 2023

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill specifies that the timeframes for child welfare intervention do not impact or remove jurisdiction or authority from the court or the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the failure or inability to meet timeframes shall not constitute grounds for dismissal of any judicial or administrative proceeding brought pursuant to Chapter 7, Title 63. Additionally, this bill provides guidelines for investigation and reporting in the case of a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. Further, this bill requires DSS to begin an appropriate and thorough investigation of all reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that do not meet certain criteria within two business days of receiving the report to determine whether the report should be indicated or unfounded.

Judicial and DSS report that this bill requires them to perform activities that will be managed with existing staff and appropriations. Therefore, there will be no expenditure impact on Judicial or DSS.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## **Introduced on March 8, 2023 State Expenditure**

This bill specifies that the timeframes for child welfare intervention do not impact or remove jurisdiction or authority from the court or DSS, and the failure or inability to meet timeframes shall not constitute grounds for dismissal of any judicial or administrative proceeding brought pursuant to Chapter 7, Title 63. Additionally, this bill provides guidelines for investigation and reporting in the case of a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. Further, this bill requires DSS to begin an appropriate and thorough investigation of all reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that do not meet certain criteria within two business days of receiving the report to determine whether the report should be indicated or unfounded.

Judicial and DSS report that this bill requires them to perform activities that will be managed with existing staff and appropriations. Therefore, there will be no expenditure impact on Judicial or DSS.

**State Revenue** 

N/A

**Local Expenditure** 

N/A

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director