



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. 3332	Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author:	Rose	
Subject:	Critical Thinking and Media Literacy Skills	
Requestor:	House Education and Public Works	
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren	
Impact Date:	February 8, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill, which requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to develop a plan to implement instruction in media literacy in kindergarten through twelfth grade, will increase General Fund expenses of the agency by \$128,944 in FY 2021-22. This includes \$108,944 in recurring expenses. Of this recurring amount, \$98,944 is for 1 FTE to manage the increased responsibilities of the bill, and \$10,000 is for travel expenses and supplies for the new position. The remaining \$20,000 is non-recurring and is needed for creation of the dashboard to house resources for school districts.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools since the agencies can manage the requirements of the bill within current appropriations.

The expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is pending, contingent upon further information from SDE.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires the State Superintendent of Education to appoint a media literacy advisory committee to conduct a study on teaching media literacy in schools. The advisory committee must include experts in media literacy including, but not limited to, academic experts and non-profit organizations and other stakeholders including teachers, librarians, parent organizations, educators, administrators, and students. The committee must provide a report of its findings including any recommendations for legislative or regulatory action to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before January 1, 2022.

This bill also requires SDE to develop a plan to implement instruction in media literacy in kindergarten through twelfth grade based upon the recommendations provided by the advisory committee. SDE must also provide a report annually, beginning July 1, 2022, to the General Assembly on the department's plan, including the timeline for implementation of instruction in media literacy.

SDE must also review and revise its model policy and procedures on electronic resources and Internet safety before July 1, 2022. Additionally, before July 1, 2022, SDE must survey teachers, librarians, principals, and technology directors to understand how digital citizenship and media literacy education are being integrated into current curriculum. Further, SDE must create a web-based location with links to recommended successful practices and resources to support digital citizenship, media literacy, and Internet safety for use in the 2022-23 school year. The office of the Superintendent of Education must continue to identify and develop additional open-educational resources to support digital citizenship, media literacy, and Internet safety in schools for the web-based location.

State Department of Education. SDE indicates that this bill will increase General Fund expenses of the agency by \$128,944 in FY 2021-22. This includes \$108,944 in recurring expenses. Of this recurring amount, \$98,944 is for 1 FTE to manage the increased responsibilities of the bill, and \$10,000 is for travel expenses and supplies for the new position. The remaining \$20,000 is non-recurring and is needed for the creation of the dashboard to house resources for school districts.

State Agency Schools. The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since the agencies can manage the requirements of the bill within current appropriations. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill requires SDE to develop a plan to implement instruction in media literacy in kindergarten through twelfth grade. This bill also requires school districts to review their policies and procedures on electronic resources and Internet safety annually, beginning with the 2022-23 school year. The bill also provides extensive criteria that must be considered during the annual review of these policies and procedures.

SDE indicates that districts currently must certify compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act to receive E-rate funds. All school districts and libraries in the state participate in the statewide E-rate consortium through the K-12 Technology Initiative. Also, South Carolina currently has K-8 Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards and the South Carolina Computer Science Standards for High School approved. Further, the current English Language Arts Standards include K-12 Inquiry-Based Literacy Standards and Disciplinary Literacy Standards and standards on analyzing and researching across multiple media.

The expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is pending, contingent upon further information from SDE.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director