



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. 3838	Introduced on February 9, 2021
Author:	Martin	
Subject:	COVID-19 Vaccines	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Miller and Wren	
Impact Date:	February 19, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will result in a change in the timing of expenditures but will not result in an increase in expenditures of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). Therefore, there is no expenditure impact on DHEC.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for the State Department of Education (SDE) as the provisions of this bill can be managed within the normal course of agency business.

Additionally, this bill will have an undermined expenditure impact on local school districts for additional bus drivers to transport students and to implement social distancing requirements for the mandatory five-day in person classroom instruction. The expenditure impact will vary between the school districts.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 9, 2021

State Expenditure

This joint resolution requires the Department of Health and Environmental Controls (DHEC) to recognize certified teachers, school support staff, as defined by the State Department of Education, and all first responders as mission-critical workers for purposes of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Those individuals classified as mission-critical workers are able to receive the two-part vaccine within Phase 1a of the South Carolina COVID-19 vaccination plan. DHEC is to work with the State Department of Education to implement the plan to offer the vaccine to certified teachers and school support staff. Further, no later than two weeks after certified teachers and support staff have been offered the opportunity to be fully vaccinated, every school district must offer five-day, in person classroom instruction to students.

Department of Health and Environmental Controls. DHEC anticipates this bill will result in a shifting in the timing of expenditures as adding more individuals to Phase 1a will result in more vaccines provided at an earlier date. DHEC states Federal Funds and Other Fund received by the state will be utilized appropriately to minimize the use of state funds where possible. Therefore, while this bill will impact the timing of when expenditures incurred, this bill will have no expenditure impact.

State Department of Education. SDE indicates that the agency can comply with the provisions of the bill within the normal course of agency business. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on SDE.

Also, based upon information provided by SDE and the special school districts, there are 122,963 teachers and school support staff that are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine under the provisions of the bill. Additionally, based on information obtained from SDE's website, twenty-nine of the regular school districts are currently operating on a five-day face-to-face schedule for students. Further, 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 are also operating on a five-day face-to-face schedule, and the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics currently offers a five-day face-to-face schedule. The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities plans to resume a normal schedule on March 15th.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

This bill requires, no later than two weeks after certified teachers and support staff have been offered the opportunity to be fully vaccinated, every school district to offer five-day, in person classroom instruction to students.

SDE indicates that the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts will vary by district. Although twenty-nine of the regular districts are offering a five-day face-to-face schedule for students, other districts indicate that expenses will increase for additional bus drivers to transport students to school five days a week, while implementing social distancing requirements.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director