



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: S. 0235 Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author: Adams
Subject: Telecommunications Location Information
Requestor: Senate Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Gardner
Impact Date: March 29, 2023

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill enables law enforcement agencies to request customer call location information from wireless service providers during emergency circumstances.

The State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) reports that implementation of the bill will result in no expenditure impact as the agency intends to use existing staff and appropriations to fulfill additional duties required by the bill.

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) surveyed all county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) to determine whether passage of the bill would result in an expenditure impact. RFA received responses from Dorchester County and the MASC, both of which indicated that implementation of the bill will have no expenditure impact.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill requires a wireless service provider to provide call location information for a user of a telecommunications device within a reasonable period of time after a request by a law enforcement agency acting in its official duties. A law enforcement agency may only make such a request for the purposes of responding to a call for emergency services at the time of the request or in an emergency situation that involves the risk of death or serious physical harm. The bill also enables a wireless service provider to establish protocols by which the carrier will voluntarily disclose call location information. In addition, the bill prohibits a civil or criminal action from being brought against a wireless service provider acting in good faith in providing call location information. SLED must obtain relevant contact information from all wireless service providers authorized to do business in this State and disseminate that information to each law enforcement agency. SLED intends to use existing staff and appropriations to fulfill this duty, and therefore, this bill will result in no expenditure impact.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

RFA surveyed all county governments and the MASC to determine whether this bill would result in an expenditure impact. RFA received responses from Dorchester County and the MASC, both of which indicated that implementation of the bill will have no expenditure impact.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director