South Carolina Office of Research and Statistics
Statement of Estimated Local Revenue Impact

Date: March 14, 2011
Bill Number: S.B. 476
Authors: Coleman
Committee Requesting Impact: Senate Finance

Bill Summary
A bill to amend Section 12-37-220, as amended, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to property tax exemptions, so as to extend the exemption for a private passenger motor vehicle owned by or leased to an eligible disabled veteran to such a vehicle owned or leased by the surviving spouse of the veteran.

REVENUE IMPACT
Local property tax revenue on cars would be reduced by an estimated $29,440 in FY 2011-12.

Explanation
Under current law two private passenger vehicles owned or leased by any disabled veteran designated by the veteran for which special license tags have been issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles under the provisions of Sections 56-3-1110 to 56-3-1130 or, in lieu of the license, if the veteran has a certificate signed by the county service officer or the Veterans Administration of the total and permanent disability which must be filed with the Department of Motor Vehicles are exempt from property taxes. This bill extends the exemption to the surviving spouse of an eligible disabled veteran for the lifetime or the remarriage of the surviving spouse. Based on information from the Department of Revenue 20,560 cars owned or leased by disabled veterans are currently exempted from property taxes under Code Section 12-37-220 (B)(3). Extending this exemption to the surviving spouse is expected to keep the exemption on 184 cars. Multiplying 184 cars times the average property tax paid on cars of $160 yields $29,440 of property tax revenue from cars that will be exempted by this bill.

William C. Gillespie, Ph.D.
Chief Economist

Analyst: Gibson

This statement meets the requirement of Section 2-7-71 for a state revenue impact by the BEA, or Section 2-7-76 for a local revenue impact or Section 6-1-85(8) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by the Office of Economic Research.