Statement of Estimated State Revenue Impact

Date: April 22, 2013

Bill Number: H.B. 3961

Authors: Wood

Committee Requesting Impact: Education and Public Works

Bill Summary
This bill proposes to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Article 132 to Chapter 3, Title 56 so as to provide that the Department of Motor Vehicles may issue “Autism Awareness” special license plates.

REVENUE IMPACT 
This bill would have no impact on General Fund revenue. This bill is expected to raise earmarked funds of the Department of Motor Vehicles by $7,800 in FY2013-14 and $1,122 in FY2015-16.

Explanation
This bill authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue an “Autism Awareness” special license plate. The requirements for production, collection and distribution of fees for this license plate are those set forth in Section 56-3-8100. As this bill does not state an additional fee above the regular registration fee, the Department of Motor Vehicles may collect an additional fee of $10 per plate. Special fee proceeds that are net of production costs retained by the Department of Motor Vehicles must be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society.

Based on information received from the Department of Motor Vehicles on similar start-up specialty plates, we expect no more than 100 “Autism Awareness” specialty plates to be issued in the initial year. The South Carolina Autism Society must submit $6,800 upfront to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Additionally, according to Section 56-3-8100, the Department of Motor Vehicles will recoup the entire $10 per plate for production costs, or $1,000. Therefore, we expect earmarked funds of the Department of Motor Vehicles to increase by a total of $7,800 in FY2013-14. There would be no remaining funds to be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society in FY2013-14. However, in FY2015-16, the South Carolina Autism Society would receive a portion of the renewal fee per plate. Of the $10 additional fee, the Department of Motor Vehicles recoups $4.39 per plate for administrative costs for renewals. Assuming a total of 200 “Autism Awareness” plates in FY2015-16, the difference of $5.61 per plate, or $1,122 would be distributed to the South Carolina Autism Society in FY2015-16.

This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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\(^{1/}\) This statement meets the requirement of Section 27-71 for a state revenue impact by the BEA, or Section 27-76 for a local revenue impact or Section 51-55(8) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by the Office of Economic Research.