Statement of Estimated State Revenue Impact

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Committee Requesting Impact: Senate Judiciary

Bill Summary: A bill to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, to enact the "South Carolina Constitutional Carry Act of 2013", to amend Section(§) 16-23-20, relating to offenses involving weapons, to change the offense of unlawfully carrying a handgun to carrying a handgun with intent to commit a crime; to repeal §16-23-460, relating to the offense of carrying a concealed weapon; to amend §23-31-220, relating to signs and the right to allow or permit concealed weapons upon premises, to remove references to concealed weapons permits and to allow a private employer or owner to allow or prohibit anyone from carrying a weapon upon his premises by providing notice with a sign; to amend §23-31-225, relating to carrying concealed weapons into residences or dwellings, to remove references to concealed weapons permits and to prohibit any person from entering a residence or dwelling of another with a weapon without permission; and to amend §23-31-240, relating to persons who are allowed to carry a weapon anywhere in the State while on duty, to include law enforcement officers.

REVENUE IMPACT

This bill is expected to reduce earmarked revenue of the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) by a total of $2,315,000 in FY 2013-14, and annually thereafter. The bill would have no impact on state General Fund revenue.

Explanation

This bill would allow certain handguns to be carried on a person except where prohibited in certain establishments by sign notification, and when not having obtained permission prior to entering a private residence. Under current permanent and temporary laws, SLED retains all proceeds to obtain a concealed weapons permit (CWP), at $50 fee; to certify CWP instructors, at a $100 fee; and those costs to verify permit status upon request of law enforcement. CWP registrations are for a four-year renewable term; whereas instructor fees are for a three-year renewable term.

Based on a review by SLED, in most circumstances these altered provisions for carrying a handgun would preclude need to obtain a CWP permit, complete requirement for "proof of training" in handgun education, and limit need to verify authority to carry a concealed weapon. Based upon average of proceeds from respective fees over last, three fiscal years, we expect a total reduction in SLED earmarked funds of $2,315,000 in FY 2013-14, and annually thereafter. The overall loss is apportioned as follows: CWP permits, $2,270,000; instructor permits, $30,000; verification fees, $15,000. As all proceeds are allocated to agency earmarked funds, the bill would have no impact on state General Fund revenue.

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Chief Economist

Analyst: Di Biase

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