

## Session 116 - (2005-2006)

### S 0685 General Bill, By Alexander

#### Summary: Mental health patients

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-9-50, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DIVISIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DIRECTOR MAY ESTABLISH DIVISIONS, RATHER THAN TO SPECIFY CERTAIN DIVISIONS IN LAW; TO AMEND SECTION 44-9-60, RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH HOSPITALS, SO AS TO CHANGE THE TITLE OF "SUPERINTENDENT" TO "CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER" AND TO DELETE THE PROVISION REQUIRING APPROVAL OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION FOR THESE APPOINTMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 44-9-90, RELATING TO POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION SO AS TO DELETE PROVISIONS RELATING TO PROVIDING EMERGENCY CARE AND TREATMENT FOR MENTAL PATIENTS CONFINED IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS, PROVISIONS RELATING TO COLLECTING DATA ON THE CAUSES AND PREVENTION OF MENTAL ILLNESS, PROVISIONS RELATING TO PROVIDING SURGICAL TREATMENT, AND PROVISIONS RELATING TO PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREAS OF MENTAL DEFECTIVENESS, EPILEPSY, DRUG ADDICTION, AND ALCOHOLISM; TO AMEND SECTION 44-9-100, RELATING TO DISCRETIONARY POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION, SO AS TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND TO AMEND SECTIONS 44-22-220, 44-23-210, 44-23-250, AND 15-9-510, RELATING, RESPECTIVELY, TO GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES FOR MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS, TO TRANSFER OF PATIENTS BETWEEN STATE FACILITIES, TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY, AND TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE OF LEGAL PAPERS FOR PATIENTS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY, SO AS TO CONFORM THESE SECTIONS TO PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 44-11-80, RELATING TO THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION SETTING SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 44-23-30, RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY OF A NONRESIDENT PHYSICIAN TO EXAMINE A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE WHO IS VISITING OR RESIDING IN ANOTHER STATE.

**03/31/05 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-9**

**03/31/05 Senate Referred to Committee on Medical Affairs SJ-9**