**South Carolina General Assembly**

118th Session, 2009-2010

**H. 4224**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. King

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Introduced in the House on January 12, 2010

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Hate crimes

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/1/2009 House Prefiled

12/1/2009 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/12/2010 House Introduced and read first time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\01-12-10.docx)‑35

1/12/2010 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\01-12-10.docx)‑35

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/1/2009](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\4224_20091201.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 18 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 16 SO AS TO PROVIDE ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR A PERSON CONVICTED OF A CRIME CONTAINED IN THIS CHAPTER WITH THE INTENT TO ASSAULT, INTIMIDATE, OR THREATEN A PERSON BECAUSE OF HIS RACE, RELIGION, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 16 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 18

Hate Crimes

Section 16‑3‑1910. A person who commits an offense contained in this chapter with the intent to assault, intimidate, or threaten a person because of his race, religion, or sexual orientation is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than two thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, or imprisoned not less than two years nor more than fifteen years, or both. Two thousand dollars of a fine and two years of a sentence imposed pursuant to the provisions of this article may not be suspended. For purposes of this section, ‘sexual orientation’ means a person’s actual or perceived heterosexuality, bisexuality, homosexuality, or gender identity or expression.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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