**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 48‑1‑125 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ANOTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL MAY NOT CONSIDER CONFORMANCE OF A PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF WASTE INTO THE WATERS OF THE STATE WITH AN APPLICABLE AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN TO JUSTIFY THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DISCHARGE TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EXCEPT ON A PROJECT SPECIFIC BASIS.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 48 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 48‑1‑125. Notwithstanding another provision of law, the department may not consider conformance of a proposed discharge of waste into the waters of the state with an applicable Areawide Water Quality Management Plan to justify the importance of the discharge to economic and social development. The economic and social factors provided in Regulation 61‑68(D)(2)(b) only may be considered on a project specific basis.”

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

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