**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑16‑25 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE RELEASE OF PIGS FOR HUNTING PURPOSES, TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS, BUY, SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRANSFER, RELEASE, OR TRANSPORT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RELEASE A MEMBER OF THE SUIDAE FAMILY FOR HUNTING OR TO SUPPLEMENT A FREE ROAMING POPULATION, TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE A LIVE HOG FROM A TRAP OR FROM THE WOODS, FIELDS, OR MARSHES OF THIS STATE, AND TO CLARIFY THAT THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ACCEPTED FARMING PRACTICES RELATED TO MEMBERS OF THE SUIDAE FAMILY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑16‑25 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑16‑25. (A) It is unlawful to possess, buy, sell, offer for sale, transfer, release, or transport for the purpose of release a member of the family Suidae (pig) into an enclosure or into the wild for hunting purposes or in an attempt to establish or supplement a free roaming population~~; however, a landowner may capture and release a pig so long as: (1) the pig is captured pursuant to a permit issued without charge by the Department of Natural Resources, and (2) the pig is released on the same tract on which the pig was captured or on an adjoining tract with permission of the owner of the adjoining tract. Under no circumstances may a pig be released in a county other than the county in which the pig was captured~~.

(B) It is unlawful to remove a live pig from a trap or from the woods, fields, or marshes of this State.

(C) Nothing in this section applies to accepted farming practices related to members of the family Suidae.”

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

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