**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**H. 4430**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Ryan and Stringer

Document Path: l:\council\bills\ggs\22198zw12.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 324

Introduced in the House on January 10, 2012

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

Summary: Constitutional amendment relating to the punishment of General Assembly members

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

11/29/2011 House Prefiled

11/29/2011 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/10/2012 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-10-12.docx))

1/10/2012 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-10-12.docx))

1/18/2012 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Stringer

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[11/29/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4430_20111129.docx)

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 12, ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO PUNISHMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE SUPERVISION OF ETHICAL CONDUCT BY MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, INCLUDING THE AUTHORITY TO DISCIPLINE MEMBERS, IS VESTED IN THE STATE AGENCY CHARGED BY LAW WITH INVESTIGATING, ENFORCING, AND ADJUDICATING ALLEGATIONS OF ETHICAL MISCONDUCT.

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

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 12, Article III of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“Each house shall choose its own officers, determine its rules of procedure, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two‑thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause. The supervision of ethical conduct by members of the General Assembly, including the authority to discipline members, is vested in the state agency charged by law with investigating, enforcing, and adjudicating allegations of ethical misconduct.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment in Section 1 must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with following words:

“Must Section 12, Article III of the South Carolina Constitution, relating to punishment of members of the General Assembly, be amended so as to provide that the supervision of ethical conduct by members of the General Assembly, including the authority to discipline members, be vested in the state agency charged by law with investigating, enforcing, and adjudicating allegations of ethical misconduct?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word, ‘No’.”

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