**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 30‑5‑10, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERFORMANCE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS’ DUTIES BY CLERK OF COURT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING IN 2014 THE REGISTER OF DEEDS IN JASPER COUNTY BE ELECTED RATHER THAN APPOINTED; AND TO AMEND SECTION 30‑3‑12, RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPOINTMENT PROCESS FOR THE JASPER COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS PRIOR TO AN ELECTED JASPER COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS BECOMING EFFECTIVE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 30-5-10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 30‑5‑10. (A) In every county in the State other than Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Greenville, Horry, ~~Jasper,~~ Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, and Sumter the duties prescribed by law for the register of deeds must be performed by the clerk of court who has all the powers and emoluments given the register of deeds in Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Greenville, Horry, ~~Jasper,~~ Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, and Sumter counties.

(B) The registers of deeds in Berkeley and Dorchester counties are elected for terms of four years and until a successor is elected in the general election and qualifies.

(C) Beginning with the general election in November of 2014, the register of deeds in Jasper County is elected for a term of four years and until a successor is elected in the general election and qualifies.”

SECTION 2. Section 30-5-12 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 30‑5‑12. (A) The governing bodies of Anderson, Beaufort, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Georgetown, Horry, ~~Jasper,~~ Kershaw, Lancaster, Oconee, Orangeburg, and Pickens counties shall appoint the register of deeds for its county under terms and conditions as it may agree upon.

(B) The governing body of Georgetown County may appoint a register of deeds only after advertising the information concerning the appointment for two weeks before action is taken in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.”

SECTION 3. On the effective date of this act, the governing body appointed position of register of deeds in Jasper County ends. Prior to the general election in November of 2014, the register of deeds in Jasper County shall be appointed by the Jasper County Legislative Delegation under terms and conditions agreed upon by the Jasper County Legislative Delegation.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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