**South Carolina General Assembly**

120th Session, 2013-2014

**A146, R154, S405**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator L. Martin

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Introduced in the Senate on February 20, 2013

Introduced in the House on April 9, 2013

Last Amended on February 27, 2014

Passed by the General Assembly on March 20, 2014

Governor's Action: April 7, 2014, Signed

Summary: Administrative Law Judges

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/20/2013 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 18](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\02-20-13.docx))

2/20/2013 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 18](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\02-20-13.docx))

2/22/2013 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Rankin (ch), Malloy, S.Martin

3/20/2013 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 14](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\03-20-13.docx))

3/21/2013 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 39](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\03-21-13.docx))

3/21/2013 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 39](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\03-21-13.docx))

3/21/2013 Senate Roll call Ayes‑38 Nays‑3 ([Senate Journal‑page 39](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\03-21-13.docx))

4/9/2013 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 17](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2013\04-09-13.docx))

4/9/2013 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 55](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2013\04-09-13.docx))

4/9/2013 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 55](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2013\04-09-13.docx))

5/30/2013 House Committee report: Favorable **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 8](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2013\05-30-13.docx))

6/4/2013 House Requests for debate‑Rep(s). Sellers, JE Smith, Rutherford, Neal, King, McEachern, Sabb, Gambrell, Thayer, Gagnon, Bannister, RL Brown, Anderson, Douglas ([House Journal‑page 17](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2013\06-04-13.docx))

1/15/2014 House Debate adjourned until Tues., 1‑21‑14 ([House Journal‑page 54](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\01-15-14.docx))

2/6/2014 House Debate adjourned until Wed., 2‑19‑14 ([House Journal‑page 32](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\02-06-14.docx))

2/19/2014 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 22](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\02-19-14.docx))

2/19/2014 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 22](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\02-19-14.docx))

2/19/2014 House Roll call Yeas‑108 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 24](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\02-19-14.docx))

2/20/2014 House Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments ([House Journal‑page 60](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\02-20-14.docx))

2/25/2014 Senate Recommitted to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 42](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\02-25-14.docx))

2/26/2014 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 13](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\02-26-14.docx))

2/27/2014 Senate House amendment amended ([Senate Journal‑page 40](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\02-27-14.docx))

2/27/2014 Senate Returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 40](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\02-27-14.docx))

3/19/2014 House Debate adjourned until Thur., 3‑20‑14 ([House Journal‑page 18](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\03-19-14.docx))

3/20/2014 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 28](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\03-20-14.docx))

3/20/2014 House Roll call Yeas‑72 Nays‑27 ([House Journal‑page 29](file:///H:\HJ%20Archive\2014\03-20-14.docx))

4/3/2014 Ratified R 154

4/7/2014 Signed By Governor

4/9/2014 Effective date 04/07/14

4/14/2014 Act No. 146

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/20/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20130220.docx)

[3/20/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20130320.docx)

[3/21/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20130321.docx)

[5/30/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20130530.docx)

[2/19/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20140219.docx)

[2/26/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20140226.docx)

[2/27/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\405_20140227.docx)

(A146, R154, S405)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1‑23‑560, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT TO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES AND THE ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THESE RULES BY THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION, SO AS TO PROVIDE INSTEAD THAT THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT, UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE SUPREME COURT, SHALL HANDLE COMPLAINTS AGAINST ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES FOR POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT IN THE SAME MANNER AS COMPLAINTS AGAINST OTHER JUDGES.**

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

**Complaints against administrative law judges**

SECTION 1. Section 1‑23‑560 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 334 of 2008, is further amended to read:

“Section 1‑23‑560. Administrative law judges are bound by the Code of Judicial Conduct, as contained in Rule 501 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules. The sole grounds for discipline and sanctions for administrative law judges are those contained in the Code of Judicial Conduct in Rule 502, Rule 7 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules. The Commission on Judicial Conduct, under the authority of the Supreme Court, shall handle complaints against administrative law judges for possible violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct in the same manner as complaints against other judges. Notwithstanding another provision of law, an administrative law judge and the judge’s spouse or guest may accept an invitation to attend a judicial‑related or bar‑related function, or an activity devoted to the improvement of the law, legal system, or the administration of justice.”

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 3rd day of April, 2014.

Approved the 7th day of April, 2014.

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