**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-755 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO RESTRICTIONS ON FORMER PUBLIC OFFICIALS, MEMBERS, OR EMPLOYEES SERVING AS A LOBBYIST OR ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT IN THE FIELD OF FORMER SERVICE, TO ESTABLISH A ONE YEAR WAITING PERIOD BEFORE A FORMER PUBLIC OFFICIAL, MEMBER, OR EMPLOYEE MAY BE COMPENSATED TO COMMUNICATE WITH HIS FORMER AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT TO INFLUENCE THEIR ACTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE PROHIBITION ON EMPLOYMENT THAT INVOLVES A MATTER IN WHICH HE DIRECTLY AND SUBSTANTIALLY PARTICIPATED DURING HIS PUBLIC SERVICE OR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8‑13‑755 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑755. (A) A former public official, former public member, or former public employee holding public office, membership, or employment ~~on or after January 1, 1992,~~ may not for a period of one year after terminating his public service or employment:

(1) serve as a lobbyist or represent clients before the agency or department on which he formerly served in a matter which he directly and substantially participated during his public service or employment; ~~or~~

(2) be compensated to communicate directly with his former agency or department for the purpose of influencing action, regardless of the subject matter in which he participated during his public service or employment; or

~~(2)~~(3) accept employment if the employment:

(a) is from a person who is regulated by the agency or department on which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee served or was employed; and

(b) involves a matter in which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee directly and substantially participated during his public service or public employment.

(B) No former public official, former public member, or former public employee holding public office, membership, or employment, after terminating his public service or employment, may accept employment if the employment involves a matter in which he directly and substantially participated during his public service or public employment.”

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

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