COMMITTEE REPORT

February 5, 2014

**S. 268**

Introduced by Senator L. Martin

S. Printed 2/5/14--S.

Read the first time January 23, 2013.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Bill (S. 268) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 19‑5‑520 so as to provide a procedure for the certification of domestic and foreign records, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting:

/ SECTION 1. Article 9, Chapter 5, Title 19 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 19‑5‑520. In addition to those matters provided by Rule 902, South Carolina Rules of Evidence, extrinsic evidence of authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not required with respect to the following:

(1) The original or a copy of a domestic record that meets the requirements of Rule 803(6), South Carolina Rules of Evidence, as shown by a certification of the custodian or another qualified person that complies with a state statute or a court rule. Before the trial or hearing, the proponent shall give an adverse party reasonable written notice of the intent to offer the record and shall make the record and certification available for inspection so that the party has a fair opportunity to challenge the record.

(2) In a civil case, the original or a copy of a foreign record that meets the requirements of subsection (1), modified as follows: the certification, rather than complying with a state statute or court rule, must be signed in a manner that, if falsely made, would subject the maker to a criminal penalty in the jurisdiction where the certification is signed. The proponent also shall meet the notice requirements of subsection (1).”

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

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

GERALD MALLOY for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

The Judicial Department and the Office of the Attorney General indicate that this bill will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State, nor on federal and/or other funds.

*Approved By:*

Brenda Hart

Office of State Budget

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 19‑5‑520 SO AS TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN RECORDS OF REGULARLY CONDUCTED ACTIVITY, OR BUSINESS RECORDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL RULE 902(11) AND (12).

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

SECTION 1. Article 9, Chapter 5, Title 19 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 19‑5‑520. In addition to those matters provided by Rule 902, Supreme Court Rules of Evidence, extrinsic evidence of authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not required with respect to the following:

(1) The original or a copy of a domestic record that meets the requirements of Rule 803(6), as shown by a certification of the custodian or another qualified person that complies with a state statute or a court rule. Before the trial or hearing, the proponent must give an adverse party reasonable written notice of the intent to offer the record and must make the record and certification available for inspection so that the party has a fair opportunity to challenge them.

(2) In a civil case, the original or a copy of a foreign record that meets the requirements of subsection (1), modified as follows: the certification, rather than complying with a state statute or court rule, must be signed in a manner that, if falsely made, would subject the maker to a criminal penalty in the country where the certification is signed. The proponent also must meet the notice requirements of subsection (1).”

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

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