**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑29‑155 SO AS TO REQUIRE EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION THAT ENCOMPASSES CIVICS AND GEOGRAPHY TO STUDENTS IN THE FIFTH GRADE, EIGHTH GRADE, AND ELEVENTH GRADE, TO PROVIDE THE COURSE MUST BE AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER IN LENGTH, AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ASSIST THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH LOCATING AND DEVELOPING APPROPRIATE CURRICULA FOR THIS INSTRUCTION.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 29, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑29‑155. Each school district shall provide at least one course of instruction that encompasses civics and geography to students in the fifth grade, eighth grade, and eleventh grade. The course must be at least one semester in length. The State Department of Education shall assist the school districts with locating and developing appropriate curricula for this instruction.”

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

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