**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 40‑6‑50, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO AN ANNUAL LICENSE FEE FOR AUCTIONEERS, SO AS TO MAKE THE FEE BIENNIAL; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40‑6‑240, RELATING TO THE LICENSING PERIOD FOR AN AUCTIONEER LICENSE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE, SO AS TO EXTEND THE PERIOD TO TWO YEARS AND MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES, AND TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION THAT A LICENSEE MUST EARN DURING THE LICENSING PERIOD PRECEDING RENEWAL FROM FOUR HOURS TO EIGHT HOURS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 40‑6‑50(C) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(C) A person licensed as an auctioneer shall pay ~~an annual~~ a biennial license fee to the commission. Funds derived under this chapter must be paid to the State Treasurer who shall keep them in the manner provided for other agencies and commissions of the State. The commission shall establish license and examination fees by regulation.”

SECTION 2. Section 40‑6‑240(A) and (B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) All licenses issued under this chapter must be issued by the commission and are valid from July first of the year issued or from the date issued, whichever is later, ~~through the following~~ for a two‑year period ending June thirtieth unless revoked or suspended pursuant to this chapter. Any license other than an apprentice license may be renewed ~~annually~~ biennially. An apprentice license may be renewed one time. No examination is required for renewal of a license if the application for renewal is made within ninety days of the expiration of the license.

(B) When a licensee applies for renewal, the licensee shall submit proof with the renewal form, in a form acceptable to the commission, that the licensee has acquired at least eight hours of commission‑approved continuing education ~~of at least four hours~~ within the previous ~~twelve months~~ licensing period. Continuing education is not required of apprentice auctioneers and auction firm license holders unless the owner or manager is a licensed auctioneer.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑