**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 63-17-2110, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, RELATING TO CONTENTS OF COURT ORDERS REQUIRING A PARENT TO PROVIDE HEALTH COVERAGE FOR A CHILD, SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ORDER, TO CHANGE THE TERM “PARENT” TO “PARTICIPANT”, AND TO CHANGE THE TERM “CHILD” TO “ALTERNATE RECIPIENT”; AND TO AMEND SECTION 43-5-220, RELATING TO OBTAINING SUPPORT PAYMENTS FROM ABSENT PARENTS, SO AS TO ELIMINATE LANGUAGE THAT PROVIDES THAT THE USE OF THE CHILD SUPPORT SCALE IS OPTIONAL.

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

SECTION 1. Section 63-17-2110, of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act Number 361 of 2008, is amended to read:

“Section 63-17-2110. To be enforced pursuant to this article, a court order which requires a parent to provide health coverage for a child must:

(1) clearly specify:

(a) the name~~, social security number,~~ and last known mailing address, if any, of the ~~parent~~ participant and the name, ~~social security number,~~ date of birth, and mailing address of each ~~child~~ alternate recipient covered by the order;

(b) a reasonable description of the type of coverage to be provided by the plan to each ~~child~~ alternate recipient or the manner in which the type of coverage is to be determined;

(c) the period to which the order applies; and

~~(d) each plan to which the order applies; and~~

(2) not require a plan to provide a type or form of benefit or an option, not otherwise provided under the plan, except to the extent necessary to meet the requirements of this article.”

SECTION 2. Section 43-5-220(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(b) The department shall establish a scale of suggested minimum contributions to assist courts in determining the amount that an absent parent should be expected to pay toward the support of a dependent child. The scale shall include consideration of gross income, shall authorize expense deductions including deductions for taxes for determining net income, shall designate other available resources to be considered and shall specify the circumstances which should be considered in reducing liability on the basis of hardship. Copies of this scale shall be made available to courts, county attorneys, circuit solicitors, and to the public. ~~It is intended that the scale formulated pursuant to this section be optional, and that no court or support official be required to use it.~~”

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

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