**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 57‑1‑370, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BY THE COMMISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND FUNDING, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE COMMISSION, IN REGARD TO A PROPOSED PROJECT WHICH IS NOT ON THE PRIORITY LIST OF PROJECTS OF THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, MAY ADD THE PROJECT TO THE LIST IN WHATEVER PRIORITY POSITION IT DETERMINES IF THE COMMISSION FINDS THE PROPOSED PROJECT WILL HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC BENEFIT NOT ONLY TO THE AREA CONCERNED, BUT TO THE STATE AS A WHOLE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 57‑1‑370 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 114 of 2007, is amended by adding a new subsection to be appropriately lettered to read:

“( ) In addition to the other provisions of this section, the commission, in regard to a proposed project which is not on the priority list of projects of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, may add the project to the list in whatever priority position it determines if the commission finds the proposed project will have a substantial immediate economic benefit not only to the area concerned, but to the State as a whole.”

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

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