**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑63‑77 SO AS TO PROVIDE EACH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL SHALL EMPLOY A CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINER ON A FULL‑TIME BASIS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES BEGINNING WITH THE 2014‑2015 SCHOOL YEAR, SUBJECT TO FUNDING BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMINOLOGY.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑63‑77. (A) Each public high school shall employ a certified athletic trainer on a full‑time basis for students participating in physical education, intramural sports, or on teams that participate in events sanctioned by the South Carolina High School League.

(B) For the purposes of this section, a ‘certified athletic trainer’ means a person certified as an athletic trainer by the Department of Health and Environmental Control pursuant to the Athletic Trainers’ Act of South Carolina in Chapter 75, Title 44.

(C) The provisions of this section are effective beginning with the 2014‑2015 school year, and are subject to the availability of funding by the General Assembly.”

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

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