**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 6‑11‑1460 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER JOB PROTECTION, TO PROVIDE THAT AN EMPLOYER MAY NOT FIRE OR TAKE ANY ACTION AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE WHO IS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OR A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL AND WHO, WHEN ACTING AS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OR A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL ARRIVES LATE TO WORK IF THE EMPLOYEE PROVIDES WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHIEF.

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

SECTION 1. Section 6‑11‑1460(D) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(D) An employer may not fire or take any action against an employee who is a volunteer firefighter or a volunteer emergency medical services personnel and who, when acting as a volunteer firefighter or a volunteer emergency medical services personnel, is part of the firefighter mobilization plan established pursuant to Chapter 49 of Title 23 and is responding to an emergency where the President of the United States has declared a state of emergency or where the Governor has declared a state of emergency in a county in the State or is responding to a local call for fire or rescue services prior to his scheduled time of arrival at his place of employment and provides written documentation from the department chief. An employer may withhold compensation for any time missed by the employee.”

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

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