**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**A227, R259, H4124**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Pitts

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Introduced in the House on May 5, 2015

Introduced in the Senate on March 10, 2016

Passed by the General Assembly on May 31, 2016

Governor's Action: June 3, 2016, Signed

Summary: Marshals at State mental health facilities

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 5/5/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 14](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C05-05-15.docx))

 5/5/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 14](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C05-05-15.docx))

 3/3/2016 House Committee report: Favorable **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 4](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-03-16.docx))

 3/9/2016 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 11](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-09-16.docx))

 3/9/2016 House Roll call Yeas‑106 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 11](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-09-16.docx))

 3/10/2016 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 12](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-10-16.docx))

 3/10/2016 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-10-16.docx))

 3/10/2016 Senate Referred to Committee on **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-10-16.docx))

 5/19/2016 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-19-16.docx))

 5/26/2016 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 32](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-26-16.docx))

 5/26/2016 Senate Roll call Ayes‑42 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 32](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-26-16.docx))

 5/31/2016 Senate Read third time and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 23](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-31-16.docx))

 6/2/2016 Ratified R 259

 6/3/2016 Signed By Governor

 6/9/2016 Effective date 06/03/16

 6/9/2016 Act No. 227

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4124&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[5/5/2015](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4124_20150505.docx)

[3/3/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4124_20160303.docx)

[5/19/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4124_20160519.docx)

(A227, R259, H4124)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 44‑11‑70, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO APPOINTMENT AND POWERS OF MARSHALS AT STATE MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES, SO AS TO SUBSTITUTE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FOR MARSHALS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

**Department of Mental Health, powers**

SECTION 1. Section 44‑11‑70 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

 “Section 44‑11‑70. The Department of Mental Health may employ law enforcement officers as may be necessary to maintain the security of state mental health facilities. The law enforcement officers must be vested with all the powers and charged with all the duties of police officers generally. They may, without warrant, arrest persons guilty of disorderly conduct or of trespass on state mental health facilities and have them tried in any court of competent jurisdiction.”

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 2nd day of June, 2016.

Approved the 3rd day of June, 2016.

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