**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**A187, R203, H4510**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Thayer, Hosey, Nanney, Hamilton, Erickson, Long, Hicks, McCoy, McEachern and Bedingfield

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Introduced in the House on January 12, 2016

Introduced in the Senate on March 10, 2016

Last Amended on May 4, 2016

Passed by the General Assembly on May 18, 2016

Governor's Action: May 25, 2016, Signed

Summary: Foster children

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 12/3/2015 House Prefiled

 12/3/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

 1/12/2016 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 87](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C01-12-16.docx))

 1/12/2016 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 87](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C01-12-16.docx))

 1/27/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Nanney

 2/23/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hamilton, Erickson, Long

 2/24/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hicks

 2/25/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: McCoy, McEachern

 3/3/2016 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-03-16.docx))

 3/8/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bedingfield

 3/8/2016 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-08-16.docx))

 3/8/2016 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-08-16.docx))

 3/8/2016 House Roll call Yeas‑93 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-08-16.docx))

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

 3/10/2016 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-10-16.docx))

 3/10/2016 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C03-10-16.docx))

 3/11/2016 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Young (ch), McElveen, Shealy

 4/20/2016 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 9](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C04-20-16.docx))

 4/21/2016 Scrivener's error corrected

 4/27/2016 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 64](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C04-27-16.docx))

 5/4/2016 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-04-16.docx))

 5/4/2016 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-04-16.docx))

 5/4/2016 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑3 ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-04-16.docx))

 5/18/2016 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 69](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-18-16.docx))

 5/18/2016 House Roll call Yeas‑112 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 69](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2016%5C05-18-16.docx))

 5/24/2016 Ratified R 203

 5/25/2016 Signed By Governor

 5/27/2016 Effective date 05/25/16

 5/31/2016 Act No. 187

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4510&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/3/2015](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20151203.docx)

[3/3/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20160303.docx)

[3/8/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20160308.docx)

[4/20/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20160420.docx)

[4/21/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20160421.docx)

[5/4/2016](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C4510_20160504.docx)

(A187, R203, H4510)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 63‑7‑2400 SO AS TO ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF FOSTER CHILDREN WHO MAY BE PLACED IN A FOSTER HOME.**

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

**Foster child placements**

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 7, Title 63 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

 “Section 63‑7‑2400. (A) A foster home may not provide full‑time care for more than five foster children, with the total number of children residing in the household not to exceed eight, including the foster parent’s own children, children of other household members, and other children residing in the household, except:

 (1) to keep a sibling group together;

 (2) to keep a child in the child’s home community;

 (3) to return a child to a home in which the child was previously placed;

 (4) to comply with an order of the court; or

 (5) if it is in the best interest of the children as determined by the court.

 (B) No more than two of the five foster children referenced in subsection (A) may be classified as therapeutic foster care placements unless one of the exceptions in subsection (A) applies. If one of the exceptions applies, no more than three of the five foster children may be classified as therapeutic foster care placements.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor. Section 63‑7‑2400(B) does not apply to foster children placed before the effective date of this act.

Ratified the 24th day of May, 2016.

Approved the 25th day of May, 2016.

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