**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 23‑23‑45 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS A CANDIDATE TO BECOME A CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THIS STATE MUST UNDERGO A MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION BEFORE HE MAY RECEIVE HIS CERTIFICATION, TO PROVIDE THAT ALL CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MUST UNDERGO A MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION BEFORE THEY CAN BE RECERTIFIED, AND TO PROVIDE THAT ALL MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COUNCIL.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 23, Title 23 of 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 23‑23‑45. (A) A person who is a candidate to become a certified law enforcement officer in this State must undergo a mental health evaluation before he may receive his certification.

(B) All certified law enforcement officers in this State must undergo a mental health evaluation before they can be recertified.

(C) Any mental health evaluation that is required by the provisions contained in this section must be conducted under the direction of the Law Enforcement Training Council.”

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

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