**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND AN ACT OF 2017, BEARING RATIFICATION NUMBER 127, RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE THREE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY INTO ONE SCHOOL DISTRICT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST BE GOVERNED BY A NINE MEMBER BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTED FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS, AND TO PROVIDE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REGARDING THE ELECTION DISTRICTS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of an Act of 2017 bearing Ratification Number 127 is amended to read:

“SECTION 2. ~~The school district must be governed by a board of trustees of nine members, one of whom must be elected from each of the same seven defined single‑member election districts as are members of the Orangeburg County Council. These seven board members’ numeric district designations shall match that of the corresponding county council district from which the consolidated school district board member is elected, and a consolidated school district board member also must be a resident of the election district from which he is elected. In addition to the seven members elected from the single‑member districts described above, two additional members must be elected from Orangeburg County at large. These at‑large board members shall hold seats bearing designations eight and nine. The board member holding at‑large seat eight must be a resident of Orangeburg County Council District One, Two, Three, or Four, and the board member holding at‑large seat nine must be a resident of Orangeburg County Council District Five, Six, or Seven. Beginning in 2018, members of the board must be elected at nonpartisan elections to be conducted at the same time as the general election. Members of the board must be elected for four‑year terms and until their successors are elected and qualify, except that of the nine members of the board elected in 2018, the members elected from election districts one, three, five, seven, and at‑large seat nine shall serve for initial terms to expire in November 2022, when their successors elected at the 2022 election qualify and take office. The members elected from election districts two, four, six, and at‑large seat eight shall serve for initial terms to expire in November 2020, when their successors elected at the 2020 election qualify and take office. In the event of a vacancy on the board occurring for any reason other than the expiration of a term, the vacancy must be filled for the unexpired term through appointment by the county legislative delegation. All persons desiring to qualify as a candidate shall file written notice of candidacy with the county election commission on forms furnished by the commission. This notice of candidacy must be a sworn statement and must include the candidate’s name, age, election district in which he resides and from which he seeks election, voting precinct, period of residence in the county and election district, and other information that the county election commission requires. The county commissioners of election shall conduct and supervise the elections for members of the board in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The commissioners shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The commission shall publish notices of the elections pursuant to Section 7‑13‑35. The results of the elections must be determined by the nonpartisan plurality method contained in Section 5‑15‑61. The members of the board elected in these nonpartisan elections shall take office one week following certification of their election pursuant to Section 59‑19‑315.~~

(A) The school district must be governed by a board of trustees of nine members, one of whom must be elected from each district as outlined in this section. A member of the board must be a resident of the election district from which he is elected. Beginning in 2018, members of the board must be elected at nonpartisan elections to be conducted at the same time as the general election. Members of the board must be elected for four‑year terms and until their successors are elected and qualify, except that of the nine members of the board elected in 2018, the members elected from election districts two, four, six, and eight shall serve for initial terms to expire in November 2020, when their successors elected at the 2020 election qualify and take office, and the members elected from election districts one, three, five, seven, and nine shall serve for initial terms to expire in November 2022, when their successors elected at the 2022 election qualify and take office. In the event of a vacancy on the board occurring for any reason other than the expiration of a term, the vacancy must be filled for the unexpired term through appointment by the county legislative delegation. All persons desiring to qualify as a candidate shall file written notice of candidacy with the county election commission on forms furnished by the commission. This notice of candidacy must be a sworn statement and must include the candidate’s name, age, election district in which he resides and from which he seeks election, voting precinct, period of residence in the county and election district, and other information that the county election commission requires. The county commissioners of election shall conduct and supervise the elections for members of the board in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The commissioners shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The commission shall publish notices of the elections pursuant to Section 7‑13‑35. The results of the elections must be determined by the nonpartisan plurality method contained in Section 5‑15‑61. The members of the board elected in these nonpartisan elections shall take office one week following certification of their election pursuant to Section 59‑19‑315.

(B)(1) Beginning with the Orangeburg County School District elections in 2018, the nine single‑member election districts from which members of the Orangeburg County School District Board of Trustees must be elected are as shown on the Orangeburg County School District Board of Trustees map S‑75‑00‑18 as maintained by the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office.

(2) The demographic information shown on this map is as follows:

District Pop Dev. %Dev. NH\_Wht %NH\_Wht NH\_Blk %NH\_Blk

\*1 9,992 ‑286 ‑2.78% 3,251 32.54% 6,404 64.09%

2 10,413 135 1.31% 3,277 31.47% 6,806 65.36%

\*3 10,167 ‑111 ‑1.08% 5,731 56.37% 4,087 40.20%

4 10,447 169 1.64% 4,520 43.27% 5,339 51.11%

\*5 10,195 ‑83 ‑0.81% 1,815 17.80% 7,922 77.70%

6 10,396 118 1.15% 3,075 29.58% 6,819 65.59%

\*7 10,550 272 2.65% 832 7.89% 9,372 88.83%

8 10,084 ‑194 ‑1.89% 5,484 54.38% 4,229 41.94%

\*9 10,257 ‑21 ‑0.20% 3,221 31.40% 6,643 64.77%

TOTAL 92,501 31,206 33.74% 57,621 62.29%

District VAP NHWVAP %NHWVAP NHBVAP %NHBVAP AllOth AllOthVAP

\*1 7,771 2,869 36.92% 4,678 60.20% 337 224

2 7,900 2,671 33.81% 5,004 63.34% 330 225

\*3 7,583 4,410 58.16% 2,938 38.74% 349 235

4 7,632 3,561 46.66% 3,650 47.82% 588 421

\*5 7,982 1,523 19.08% 6,128 76.77% 458 331

6 7,986 2,648 33.16% 4,979 62.35% 502 359

\*7 8,671 702 8.10% 7,718 89.01% 346 251

8 7,744 4,363 56.34% 3,113 40.20% 371 268

\*9 7,793 2,667 34.22% 4,858 62.34% 393 268

TOTAL 71,062 25,414 35.76% 43.066 60.60% 3,674 2,582

\*Denotes: 4‑year Term”

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

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