**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 43‑5‑127 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT’S DIVISION OF ECONOMIC SERVICES AND OTHER DIVISIONS OR AGENCIES WHEN A CHILD IS REMOVED FROM THE HOME, SO AS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PERSON FROM WHOM THE CHILD HAS BEEN REMOVED RECEIVES SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BENEFITS OR OTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO RECALCULATE THE BENEFIT AMOUNT IF IMPACTED BY THE REMOVAL OF THE CHILD FROM THE PERSON’S PHYSICAL CUSTODY.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 5, Title 43 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 43‑5‑127. (A) Immediately after the department removes of a child from the home pursuant to Section 63‑7‑620, 63‑7‑740, or 63‑7‑1660, the Division of Child Protective Services shall provide the Division of Economic Services, and any other appropriate divisions or agencies, the name of the parent or other caregiver from whose physical custody the child has been removed in order for the department to determine whether that person receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, Family Independence benefits, or other public assistance in order to recalculate the benefit amount to be paid to the household if impacted by a decrease in members of the household or size of the benefit group.

(B) The department shall document in the child’s case file that the department has fulfilled the requirements of subsection (A) and the impact on any benefits or other public assistance paid to the person from whose physical custody the child has been removed.”

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

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