**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑26‑35 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE 2018‑2019 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH SCHOOL IN THE ALLENDALE, DILLON 4, FLORENCE 4, HAMPTON 2, JASPER, LEE, MARION 7, AND ORANGEBURG 3 SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL, HIRE NONCERTIFIED TEACHERS IN A RATIO OF UP TO TWENTY‑FIVE PERCENT OF ITS ENTIRE TEACHING STAFF; TO PROVIDE PART‑TIME, NONCERTIFIED TEACHERS ARE CONSIDERED PRO RATA IN CALCULATING THIS PERCENTAGE BASED ON THE HOURS WHICH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO TEACH; AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 26, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑26‑35. (A) Beginning with the 2018‑2019 School Year, each school in the Allendale, Dillon 4, Florence 4, Hampton 2, Jasper, Lee, Marion 7, and Orangeburg 3 school districts may, in the discretion of the school, hire noncertified teachers in a ratio of up to twenty‑five percent of its entire teaching staff. Part‑time, noncertified teachers are considered pro rata in calculating this percentage based on the hours which they are expected to teach.

(B) For purposes of this section, ‘noncertified teacher’ means an individual considered appropriately qualified for the subject matter taught and who has completed at least one year of study at an accredited college or university and submits, at his expense, to SLED and FBI fingerprint‑based criminal background checks.”

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

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