**A** **BILL**

TO AFFIRM AND RATIFY THAT THE GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM’S BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAS THE POWER AND AUTHORITY TO CREATE A HEALTH CARE SYSTEM THAT MEETS ITS OBLIGATIONS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE QUALITY HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITIES IT SERVES, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH LEGAL ENTITIES FOR STRATEGIC AND OPERATION MANAGEMENT, AND TO AMEND ACT 432 OF 1947, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM, SO AS TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM TO THE GREENVILLE HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Whereas, Act 432 of 1947 created public hospital facilities for the residents of Greenville County to address the need to provide adequate medical and hospital care in the community; and

Whereas, the act, as amended, authorizes and empowers Greenville Health System to do all things necessary or convenient to establish and maintain adequate hospital facilities in Greenville County; and

Whereas, based upon the authority granted to the Greenville Health System in the act, the Greenville Health System Board of Trustees voted at the December 2015 board meeting to become part of a new health system; and

Whereas, this led the Greenville Health System to enter into long‑term contractual relationships with other legal entities and create the Upstate Affiliate Organization and the Strategic Coordinating Organization; and

Whereas, the incorporation of the Upstate Affiliate Organization and the Strategic Coordinating Organization requires the board to identify members of the community to fill vacancies on the initial boards of these entities. Now, therefore:

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 (A) of Act 432 of 1947, as last amended by Act 102 of 2015, is further amended to read:

“Section 1. (A) For the purpose of operating and at all times maintaining adequate hospital facilities for the residents of Greenville County, including those residents in the City of Greenville and as otherwise provided by law, including, but not limited to, Section 44‑7‑78, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, there is established the ~~Greenville Health System~~ Greenville Health Authority (formerly known as the Greenville Hospital System and later as the Greenville Health System) which must be governed by a board of trustees selected pursuant to this section.”

SECTION 2. The General Assembly recognizes that the Greenville Health Authority acted within its legal authority in determining to participate in a system comprised of other legal entities in which strategy is centrally established and resources of system participants are used in support of the system and ratifies this decision.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of this act, the General Assembly hereby declaring that it would have passed this act, and each and every section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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