**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 12‑43‑220(c)(2) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PROGRAMS AND UNIFORM ASSESSMENT RATIOS FOR COUNTY EQUALIZATION AND REASSESSMENT, TO PROVIDE THAT AN OWNER ELIGIBLE FOR AND RECEIVING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12‑43‑220(c) WHO IS RESIDING AT A NURSING HOME RETAINS THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATIO OF FOUR PERCENT FOR AS LONG AS THE OWNER REMAINS IN THE NURSING HOME.

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

SECTION 1. Section 12‑43‑220(c)(2) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding a subitem at the end to read:

“(ix) If an owner who is entitled to the special assessment ratio for owner‑occupied residential property allowed pursuant to this item (c), becomes a patient at a nursing home or a community residential care facility, then the owner retains the four percent assessment ratio and applicable exemptions for as long as the owner remains in the home or facility so long as the owner otherwise qualifies, has an intention of returning to the property, and the property is not rented in excess of the amount allowed by this subitem(c)(2). For purposes of this subitem, nursing home and community residential care facility have the same meaning as provided in Section 44‑7‑130.”

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

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