**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 6‑1‑190 SO AS TO PROHIBIT A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FROM REMOVING THE MONUMENT OR MEMORIAL OF AN HISTORICAL FIGURE OR THE NAME OF AN HISTORICAL FIGURE FOR WHICH A STRUCTURE IS NAMED, AND TO PROVIDE THAT ANY MEMBER OF A LOCAL GOVERNING BODY WHO VOTES FOR SUCH REMOVAL IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND MUST BE FINED TWENTY‑FIVE MILLION DOLLARS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 1, Title 6 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 6‑1‑190. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a local government may not remove the monument or memorial of an historical figure or the name of an historical figure for which a structure is named. Any member of a local governing body who votes for removal in violation of this section, is guilty of a misdemeanor and must be fined twenty‑five million dollars. Any vote for removal in violation of this section is deemed to be outside the scope of the member’s official capacity and the member is personally liable for the fine. Neither the State nor the local government may indemnify the official’s unlawful action.”

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

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