

Amendment: 12

Representative Bannister proposes the following amendment:

Section 117, General Provisions

New:

117.tppa (GP: Telecommuting Policy or Plan Approval) Any state agency, excluding institutions of higher education, intending to allow any employee to telecommute pursuant to Section 8-11-15 of the 1976 Code must adopt a telecommuting policy that comports with telecommuting guidelines established by the Department of Administration. An agency's telecommuting policy adopted pursuant to this provision must be approved by the Department of Administration prior to implementation. State agencies that intend to permit more than ten percent of their workforce to telecommute must, in addition to adopting a telecommuting policy, create a telecommuting plan that comports with Department of Administration guidelines and includes, but is not limited to, provisions detailing how the agency will determine which positions and employees shall be permitted to telecommute, the increased costs, if any, associated with telecommuting, and the expected benefits (increased efficiencies and costs savings) of telecommuting. These plans must be approved by the Department of Administration prior to implementation. Agencies implementing a telecommuting policy must comply with reporting requirements regarding telecommuting.

Public institutions of higher learning, including technical colleges, intending to allow employees to telecommute shall develop telecommuting policies and plans consistent with the telecommuting guidelines established by the Department of Administration. Public institutions of higher learning, including technical colleges, shall provide any telecommuting policy or plan adopted and data related to such policy or plan to the Department of Administration upon request.

For purposes of this provision, workforce is inclusive of any person in the service of an agency who receives compensation from the agency and where the agency has the right to control and direct the employee in how the work is performed.

Nothing in this provision shall apply to agencies, departments, officials, or employees of the Legislative or Judicial Branches of the State of South Carolina.