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9 **A BILL**

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11 TO AMEND SECTION 30-4-80, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH
12 CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PUBLIC NOTICE
13 REQUIREMENTS OF PUBLIC MEETINGS, SO AS TO
14 REQUIRE AN AGENDA FOR THE MEETINGS, AND TO
15 PROVIDE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH ITEMS MAY BE
16 ADDED TO THE AGENDA.

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

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21 SECTION 1. Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

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23 “Section 30-40-80. (a) All public bodies, except as provided in
24 subsections (b) and (c) of this section, must give written public
25 notice of their regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar
26 year. The notice must include the dates, times, and places of such
27 meetings. ~~Agenda, if any,~~ for regularly scheduled or special
28 meetings must be posted on a bulletin board in a publicly accessible
29 place at the office or meeting place of the public body and on a
30 public website maintained by the public body, if any, at least
31 twenty-four hours prior to such meetings. All public bodies must
32 post on such bulletin board and website, if any, public notice for any
33 called, special, or rescheduled meetings. Such notice must be posted
34 as early as is practicable but not later than twenty-four hours before
35 the meeting. Once an agenda for a regular, called, special, or
36 rescheduled meeting is posted pursuant to this subsection, no items
37 may be added to the agenda without an additional twenty-four hours
38 notice to the public, which must be made in the same manner as the
39 original posting. After the meeting begins, an item only may be
40 added to the agenda by a two-thirds vote of the members present and
41 voting, who must make a finding that irreparable harm to the public
42 will result if the item is not added. The notice must include the

1 agenda, date, time, and place of the meeting. This requirement does
2 not apply to emergency meetings of public bodies.

3 (b) Legislative committees must post their meeting times during
4 weeks of the regular session of the General Assembly and must
5 comply with the provisions for notice of special meetings during
6 those weeks when the General Assembly is not in session. Once an
7 agenda for a legislative committee is posted pursuant to this
8 subsection, no items may be added to the agenda without an
9 additional twenty-four hours notice to the public which must be
10 made in the same manner as the original notice. Subcommittees of
11 standing legislative committees must give notice during weeks of
12 the legislative session only if it is practicable to do so.

13 (c) Subcommittees, other than legislative subcommittees, of
14 committees required to give notice under subsection (a), must make
15 reasonable and timely efforts to give notice of their meetings.

16 (d) Written public notice must include but need not be limited to
17 posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the public body
18 holding the meeting or, if no such office exists, at the building in
19 which the meeting is to be held.

20 (e) All public bodies shall notify persons or organizations, local
21 news media, or such other news media as may request notification
22 of the times, dates, places, and agenda of all public meetings,
23 whether scheduled, rescheduled, or called, and the efforts made to
24 comply with this requirement must be noted in the minutes of the
25 meetings.”

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