Session 126 - (2025-2026)

H 4059 General Bill, By Bauer, Hosey, Garvin, Cobb-Hunter, Bernstein, Stavrinakis, Dillard, Wetmore, King, Spann-Wilder, Jones, Rivers, Gilliard, Anderson, Kirby, Luck, Rose, Rutherford, Alexander, Grant and Reese

Summary: Freedom to Read Protections and Respect for School Librarian Autonomy

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "FREEDOM TO READ PROTECTIONS AND RESPECT FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST AUTONOMY ACT"; BY ADDING SECTION 59-31-55 SO AS TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS, TO AFFIRM CERTAIN RIGHTS CONCERNING STUDENT ACCESS TO DIVERSE AND DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE READING MATERIAL, TO PROVIDE THE RIGHT FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS TO AUTONOMOUSLY MAKE CERTAIN DECISIONS ABOUT CURATING AND MAINTAINING MATERIALS IN THEIR SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER COLLECTIONS, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMAL CHALLENGES TO SUCH MATERIALS, AND TO PROVIDE RELATED RIGHTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS AND OTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS WHEN PERFORMING RELATED PROFESSIONAL DUTIES IN GOOD FAITH.

02/19/25 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 61)

02/19/25 House Referred to Committee on Education and Public Works (House Journal-page 61)