

Session 124 - (2021-2022)

H 4878 General Bill, By J. Moore, Pendarvis, Henegan and King

Summary: Elections - Redistricting

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION AND VOTER ACCESSIBILITY ACT" BY ADDING CHAPTER 80 TO TITLE 2 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE "SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION" FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING REAPPORTIONMENT PLANS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SELECTION, QUALIFICATIONS, POWERS, DUTIES, AND TERMS OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS MEMBERS; BY ADDING SECTION 7-3-65 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND PARDON SERVICES SHALL INFORM A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR AN OFFENSE AGAINST THE ELECTION LAWS AND HAS SERVED THE SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE CONVICTION, INCLUDING PROBATION AND PAROLE TIME UNLESS SOONER PARDONED, THAT HE IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER TO VOTE; BY ADDING SECTION 7-5-275 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, AND THE COUNTY BOARDS OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS TO ENSURE THAT A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE HAS COMPLETED A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM AND RECEIVED INSTRUCTION IN A CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT OR THROUGH A METHOD APPROVED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING, TO ALLOW A STUDENT TO OPT OUT OF THE PROCESS, AND TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRANT RECEIVE A VOTER REGISTRATION CARD BEFORE THE FIRST ELECTION IN WHICH HE IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE; BY ADDING SECTION 7-13-25 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE AUTHORITY CHARGED BY LAW WITH CONDUCTING AN ELECTION SHALL PROVIDE A PROCEDURE BY WHICH A QUALIFIED ELECTOR MAY REGISTER AND CAST A BALLOT ON THE SAME DAY, PROVIDE THAT A QUALIFIED ELECTOR MAY CAST A BALLOT DURING THE SEVEN-DAY PERIOD PRECEDING THE ELECTION, AND PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE OR MORE EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS IN EACH COUNTY; BY ADDING SECTION 7-13-27 SO AS TO ESTABLISH EARLY VOTING PROCEDURES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EARLY VOTING PERIOD TO BEGIN THIRTY DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION; TO AMEND SECTION 7-3-20, RELATING TO DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, SO AS TO FURTHER DEFINE HIS DUTIES; TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-320, RELATING TO PERSONS QUALIFIED TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT, SO AS TO INCLUDE VOTING DURING THE EARLY VOTING PERIOD; AND TO AMEND SECTION 7-5-320, RELATING TO THE APPLICATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE AND VOTER REGISTRATION, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH STATE IDENTIFICATION CARD APPLICATION OR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE APPLICATION, INCLUDING RENEWAL APPLICATIONS, SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES SHALL SERVE AS AN APPLICATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION, TO ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE APPLICANT SIGN A SEPARATE VOTER REGISTRATION PORTION OF THE APPLICATION IN ORDER TO REGISTER, TO PROVIDE THAT THE APPLICANT SHALL CONSENT TO THE USE OF HIS SIGNATURE FROM HIS STATE IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER'S LICENSE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FOR VOTER REGISTRATION PURPOSES, AND TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO DECLINE REGISTRATION.

01/27/22 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 28)

01/27/22 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 28)