

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

H 5548 General Bill, By Martin, Yow, Terribile, T. Moore, Sessions, Guest, Guffey, Lawson, Collins, Pope, Ligon, B. Newton and Neese

Summary: South Carolina Indian Child Welfare Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING CHAPTER 23 TO TITLE 63 SO AS TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD WELFARE PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING INDIAN CHILDREN; TO GRANT INDIAN TRIBES EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION IN CERTAIN CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING INDIAN CHILDREN, WITH EXCEPTIONS; TO REQUIRE STATE COURTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO COMPLY WITH CERTAIN INQUIRIES AND PROCESSES IN CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING INDIAN CHILDREN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; BY ADDING SECTION 63-9-45 SO AS TO MAKE THE SOUTH CAROLINA ADOPTION CODE INAPPLICABLE TO THE ADOPTION OF INDIAN CHILDREN, WITH EXCEPTIONS; BY AMENDING SECTIONS 63-15-302 AND 63-15-306, BOTH RELATING TO CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDINGS, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

04/16/26 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 7)

04/16/26 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 7)

04/30/26 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 9)

04/30/26 Senate Referred to Committee on Transportation (Senate Journal-page 9)