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Session 123 - (2019-2020)

H 3826 General Bill, By Loftis, Burns and G.R. Smith

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59-28-115 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THAT PARENTS HAVE THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF LIBERTY TO DIRECT THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN, AND TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAY NOT INFRINGE ON THIS RIGHT WITHOUT MEETING CERTAIN CRITERIA; BY ADDING SECTION 59-29-115 SO AS TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY INCLUDE ELECTIVE COURSEWORK SURVEYING RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD IN HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONTENT OF THE COURSEWORK, TO PROVIDE DISTRICTS ALSO MAY REQUIRE TEACHING VARIOUS THEORIES CONCERNING THE ORIGIN OF LIFE; TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS MAY ALLOW STUDENTS TO ATTEND CERTAIN SCHOOLS FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION, TO RECEIVE RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AT THE WRITTEN REQUEST OF A PARENT, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH SCHOOLS OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION, TO PROVIDE TIME LIMITS AND ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS, TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS MAY AWARD ACADEMIC CREDIT IF THE DISTRICT ADOPTS CERTAIN RELATED POLICIES, AND TO PROVIDE STUDENTS MAY RECEIVE NO MORE THAN TWO ELECTIVE UNITS FOR COMPLETING THIS COURSEWORK; AND TO AMEND SECTION 59-1-320, RELATING TO THE REQUIRED DISPLAY OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE FLAG OF THIS STATE, SO AS TO ALSO REQUIRE DISPLAY OF THE MOTTO OF THE UNITED STATES, TO SPECIFY THE MANNER OF DISPLAYING THESE FLAGS AND THIS MOTTO, AND TO PROVIDE OPTIONS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THESE DISPLAYS.

01/31/19 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 56)

01/31/19 House Referred to Committee on Education and Public Works (House Journal-page 56)

01/15/20 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: G.R.Smith