**South Carolina General Assembly**

118th Session, 2009-2010

**A227, R273, H3800**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Toole, Erickson, Brady, Bowen, Brantley, Parker, Allison, Cato, Crawford, Dillard, Duncan, Gullick, Gunn, Horne, Hosey, Jefferson, Littlejohn, Millwood, Mitchell, Pinson, Stringer, Willis, Wylie, A.D. Young, J.E. Smith, Clemmons, Hutto and Viers

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Introduced in the House on March 26, 2009

Introduced in the Senate on March 3, 2010

Last Amended on May 20, 2010

Passed by the General Assembly on May 26, 2010

Became law without Governor's signature, June 8, 2010

Summary: Child abuse allegations

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/26/2009 House Introduced and read first time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2009\03-26-09.docx)‑44

3/26/2009 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2009\03-26-09.docx)‑44

1/28/2010 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: J.E.Smith

2/4/2010 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-04-10.docx)‑4

2/17/2010 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Clemmons, Hutto, Viers

2/17/2010 House Requests for debate‑Rep(s). Crawford, GM Smith, Bannister, Clemmons, JE Smith, Duncan, JH Neal, Hosey, Williams, Wylie, King, Bedingfield, GR Smith, and Hart [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-17-10.docx)‑23

2/25/2010 House Amended [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-25-10.docx)‑44

2/25/2010 House Read second time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-25-10.docx)‑46

2/25/2010 House Roll call Yeas‑45 Nays‑2 [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\02-25-10.docx)‑46

3/2/2010 House Read third time and sent to Senate [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\03-02-10.docx)‑28

3/3/2010 Senate Introduced and read first time [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\03-03-10.docx)‑4

3/3/2010 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\03-03-10.docx)‑4

3/5/2010 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Campbell (ch), Knotts, Campsen, Lourie, Massey

5/5/2010 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-05-10.docx)‑13

5/6/2010 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-06-10.docx)‑22

5/6/2010 Senate Read second time [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-06-10.docx)‑22

5/11/2010 Scrivener's error corrected

5/11/2010 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-11-10.docx)‑27

5/11/2010 Senate Reconsider vote whereby read third time and returned with amendments [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-11-10.docx)‑27

5/12/2010 Senate Amended [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-12-10.docx)‑15

5/12/2010 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-12-10.docx)‑15

5/20/2010 House Senate amendment amended [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-20-10.docx)‑46

5/20/2010 House Returned to Senate with amendments [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-20-10.docx)‑46

5/25/2010 Scrivener's error corrected

5/26/2010 Senate Concurred in House amendment and enrolled [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-26-10.docx)‑109

6/1/2010 Ratified R 273

6/8/2010 Became law without Governor's signature

6/16/2010 Effective date 06/08/10

6/23/2010 Act No. 227

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/26/2009](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20090326.docx)

[2/4/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100204.docx)

[2/25/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100225.docx)

[5/5/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100505.docx)

[5/6/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100506.docx)

[5/11/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100511.docx)

[5/12/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100512.docx)

[5/20/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100520.docx)

[5/25/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\3800_20100525.docx)

(A227, R273, H3800)

**AN ACT** **TO AMEND SECTION 63‑7‑310, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A CHILD, SO AS TO INCLUDE A SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER, FOSTER PARENT, JUVENILE JUSTICE WORKER, AND VOLUNTEER NON‑ATTORNEY GUARDIAN AD LITEM SERVING ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM OR ON BEHALF OF RICHLAND COUNTY CASA AS AMONG THE PEOPLE WHO MUST REPORT CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT, AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHER PEOPLE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A VOLUNTEER NON‑ATTORNEY GUARDIAN AD LITEM SERVING ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM OR ON BEHALF OF RICHLAND COUNTY CASA, TO REPORT THIS ABUSE.**

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

**People required to report a reason to believe child abuse or neglect occurred; additional categories of people required to report**

SECTION 1. Section 63‑7‑310 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 361 of 2008, is amended to read:

“Section 63‑7‑310. (A) A physician, nurse, dentist, optometrist, medical examiner, or coroner, or an employee of a county medical examiner’s or coroner’s office, or any other medical, emergency medical services, mental health, or allied health professional, member of the clergy including a Christian Science Practitioner or religious healer, school teacher, counselor, principal, assistant principal, school attendance officer, social or public assistance worker, substance abuse treatment staff, or childcare worker in a childcare center or foster care facility, foster parent, police or law enforcement officer, juvenile justice worker, undertaker, funeral home director or employee of a funeral home, persons responsible for processing films, computer technician, judge, or a volunteer non‑attorney guardian ad litem serving on behalf of the South Carolina Guardian Ad Litem Program or on behalf of Richland County CASA must report in accordance with this section when in the person’s professional capacity the person has received information which gives the person reason to believe that a child has been or may be abused or neglected as defined in Section 63‑7‑20.

(B) If a person required to report pursuant to subsection (A) has received information in the person’s professional capacity which gives the person reason to believe that a child’s physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by acts or omissions that would be child abuse or neglect if committed by a parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child’s welfare, but the reporter believes that the act or omission was committed by a person other than the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child’s welfare, the reporter must make a report to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(C) Except as provided in subsection (A), a person, including, but not limited to, a volunteer non-attorney guardian ad litem serving on behalf of the South Carolina Guardian Ad Litem Program or on behalf of Richland County CASA, who has reason to believe that a child’s physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse and neglect may report, and is encouraged to report, in accordance with this section.

(D) Reports of child abuse or neglect may be made orally by telephone or otherwise to the county department of social services or to a law enforcement agency in the county where the child resides or is found.”

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 1st day of June, 2010.

Became law without the signature of the Governor -- 6/8/10.

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