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Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE AMENDED AND ADOPTED

May 6, 2010

**S. 1057**

Introduced by Senator Alexander

S. Printed 5/6/10--S.

Read the first time January 19, 2010.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 12‑6‑3622 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO TAX CREDITS FOR A FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM, TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND THE TAX CREDIT PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 6‑9‑60, RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF CERTAIN BUILDING CODES, TO PROVIDE THAT A LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAY NOT ADOPT BY REFERENCE A BUILDING CODE FOR RESIDENCES; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 6‑9‑135.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 12‑6‑3622 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( )(1) The General Assembly shall appoint a study committee to develop new strategies to increase participation in the tax credit program by all local taxing entities, and to review and make recommendations for increasing the installation of interconnected hard‑wired smoke alarms. The study committee shall make a report of its findings to the General Assembly no later than January 30, 2011. The committee shall dissolve upon the date of its report.

(2) The study committee shall be composed of six members. Three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The study committee must be composed of a representative of the South Carolina Fire Sprinkler Association, a representative of the South Carolina Home Builders Association, a representative of the South Carolina Association of Counties, and a representative of the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

(3) Members of the study committee shall serve without any compensation for per diem, mileage, and subsistence.”

SECTION 2. A. Chapter 9, Title 6 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 6‑9‑55. (A) No building code provision that requires an automatic residential fire sprinkler system be installed in a new one‑family or two‑family dwelling shall be enforced.

(B) A prospective homeowner of a one‑family or two‑family dwelling in a jurisdiction in which installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system is required by a building code provision may choose whether to have the sprinkler system installed.

(C) A residential builder or general contractor of a one‑family or two‑family dwelling in a jurisdiction in which an automatic fire sprinkler system is required by the International Residential Code shall offer the homeowner the option of installing an approved automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with the International Residential Code.

(D) To the extent that the provisions of this section conflict with any law or local ordinance, this section shall control.”

B. This section takes effect January 1, 2011.

SECTION 3. Section 58‑5‑30 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 318 of 2006, is further amended to read:

“Section 58‑5‑30. Except as provided in Article 23, Chapter 9 ~~of~~, Title 58, and Section 58-5-390, nothing contained in Articles 1, 3, and 5 of this chapter shall give the commission or the regulatory staff any power to regulate or interfere with public utilities owned or operated by or on behalf of any municipality or regional transportation authority as defined in Chapter 25 of this title or their agencies.”

SECTION 4. Section 6‑9‑135 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 5. Except where otherwise provided, this act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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