**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 22‑2‑45 SO AS TO ALLOW THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION TO DESIGNATE THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES FOR THAT COUNTY IF THE DELEGATION CHOOSES TO EXERCISE THIS OPTION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 22‑8‑10, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR PURPOSES OF MAGISTRATES’ COMPENSATION, SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM “CHIEF MAGISTRATE” ACCORDINGLY.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Title 22 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 22‑2‑45. Notwithstanding another provision of law or rule, it is the prerogative of the appropriate legislative delegation for a county to elect to delegate the chief magistrate for administrative purposes for the county. If the legislative delegation does not exercise this option, the chief magistrate for administrative purposes for the county must be delegated as otherwise provided by law or rule.”

SECTION 2. Section 22‑8‑10(1) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(1) ‘Chief magistrate’ means the magistrate in each county who is designated by the appropriate legislative delegation as provided in Section 22‑2‑45 or by the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court as the chief magistrate for administrative purposes for the county which he serves.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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