**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑101‑435 SO AS TO PROVIDE A HIGH SCHOOL, CAREER CENTER, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WHICH THEY ARE LOCATED AND A STATE‑SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING MAY ENTER INTO ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT OF PARTICIPATION IN OR ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BY THE GOVERNING BODY OR COMMISSION OF AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING INCLUDING A LOCAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE OR ITS AREA COMMISSION LOCATED IN THE SAME COUNTY OR AREA WHERE THE HIGH SCHOOL OR CAREER CENTER IS LOCATED, AND TO DEFINE ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PROVISION.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 101, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑101‑435. (A) For purposes of this section, an ‘articulation agreement’ means an agreement whether or not reduced to writing between a high school, a career center, or the school district in which they are located and a state‑supported institution of higher learning as defined in Section 59‑103‑5 wherein the institution of higher learning agrees to accept for credit upon specified conditions particular courses of instruction taken and successfully completed by students at the high school or career center. The articulation agreement may include provisions that specify courses offered for dual credit.

(B) A high school, career center, or school district in which they are located and a state‑supported institution of higher learning as defined in Section 59‑103‑5 may enter into articulation agreements as defined in subsection (A), in conformity with the academic guidelines, if any, prescribed by their governing bodies, without the requirement of participation in or administration of the articulation agreement by the governing body or commission of an institution of higher learning including a local technical college or its area commission located in the same county or area where the high school or career center is located.”

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

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