**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 48‑52‑210 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE PLAN FOR THE STATE ENERGY POLICY, TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF CLEAN ENERGY SOURCES; AND TO AMEND ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 52, TITLE 48, BY ADDING SECTION 48‑52‑220 TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR “RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES”.

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

SECTION 1. Section 48‑52‑210(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) The purpose of the plan is to:

(1) ensure access to energy supplies at the lowest practical environmental and economic cost;

(2) ensure long‑term access to adequate, reliable energy supplies;

(3) ensure that demand‑side options are pursued wherever economically and environmentally practical;

(4) encourage the development and use of clean energy resources, including nuclear energy, energy conservation and efficiency, and indigenous, renewable energy resources;

(5) ensure that basic energy needs of all citizens, including low income citizens, are met;

(6) ensure that energy vulnerability to international events is minimized;

(7) ensure that energy‑related decisions promote the economic and environmental well‑being of the State and maximize the ability of South Carolina to attract retirees, tourists, and industrial and service‑related jobs;

(8) ensure that short‑term energy decisions do not conflict with long‑range energy needs;

(9) ensure that internal governmental energy use patterns are consistent with the State’s long‑range interests;

(10) ensure that state government is organized appropriately to handle energy matters in the best public interest;

(11) ensure that governmental energy‑related tax, expenditure, and regulatory policies are appropriate, and, wherever possible, maximize the long‑range benefits of competition~~.~~;

(12) ensure that any future energy strategy that promotes carbon‑free, non‑greenhouse gas emitting sources includes nuclear energy, renewable energy resources, and energy conservation and efficiency.”

SECTION 2. Article 2, Chapter 52, Title 48 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 48‑52‑220. For the purposes of this chapter, ‘renewable energy resources’ means energy conservation and efficiency, nuclear fuel reprocessing, solar photovoltaic energy, solar thermal energy, wind power, hydroelectric power, geothermal energy, tidal energy, wave energy, recycling, hydrogen fuel derived from renewable resources, biomass energy, energy derived from municipal and other solid waste, energy derived from waste oil, energy derived from waste tires, and landfill gas.”

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

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