**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 2‑17‑56 SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO EMPLOY OR CONTRACT WITH A LOBBYIST AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 17, Title 2 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 2‑17‑56. It is unlawful for a state agency, authority, or department to directly or indirectly hire or retain an independent contractor as a lobbyist as defined in Section 2‑17‑10(13). The provisions of this section do not include foundations established by state‑sponsored universities or institutions of higher education which do not receive appropriated funds on an annual basis.”

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

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑