**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, TITLE 39 OF THE 1976 CODE, BY ADDING SECTION 39‑1‑95, RELATING TO CELLULAR TELEPHONE CONTRACTS, TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND MEMBERS OF THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO TERMINATE OR SUSPEND CONTRACTS FOR CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE UPON A QUALIFYING DEPLOYMENT OR CHANGE OF DUTY STATION.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 39 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 39‑1‑95. (A) Any member of the United States Armed Forces, their spouse, or child who resides with the member of the United States Armed Forces, who is stationed or residing in South Carolina, upon deployment or permanent change of duty station to a location outside the State of South Carolina may, at their option and without penalty, terminate or suspend, in full or in part, a contract for cellular telephone service they are party to while stationed or residing in South Carolina.

(B) Termination or suspension of a contract for cellular telephone service, pursuant to subsection (A), is effective when the member of the United States Armed Forces, their spouse, or child who resides with the member of the United States Armed Forces notifies the cellular phone service provider of their intention to terminate the contract and provides the cellular phone service provider with a copy of the relevant order of deployment or permanent change of duty station.

(C) A member of the United States Armed Forces, their spouse, or child who resides with the member of the United States Armed Forces may utilize subsection (A) to terminate or suspend a contract for cellular telephone service from the date of receipt of the order of deployment or permanent change of duty station until sixty days following the relocation of the member of the United States Armed Forces, their spouse, or child who resides with the member of the United States Armed Forces.

(D) As used in this article, members of the United States Armed Forces include all members serving in active components, reserve components, and National Guard components.”

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

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