**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 24‑3‑970 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A JAIL, DETENTION CENTER, OR CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO MONITOR AND RECORD THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS OF AN INMATE AND HIS LEGAL COUNSEL AND TO RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC A RECORDED TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN AN INMATE AND ANOTHER PERSON UNLESS THE RELEASE OF THE CONVERSATION IS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM POTENTIAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

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

SECTION 1. Article 9, Chapter 3, Title 24 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 24‑3‑970. (A) It is unlawful for a jail, detention center, or correctional facility to monitor and record the telephone conversations of an inmate and his legal counsel.

(B) It is unlawful for a jail, detention center, or correctional facility to release to the public a recorded telephone conversation between an inmate and another person unless the release of the conversation is essential to protect the public from potential criminal activity.”

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

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