**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56‑3‑1980 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION MAY APPOINT NONCOMPENSATED VOLUNTEERS TO ISSUE PARKING TICKETS TO VEHICLES AND PERSONS WHO VIOLATE THE STATE’S HANDICAPPED PARKING LAWS, AND TO PROVIDE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 18, Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑1980. (A) A political subdivision of the State may establish a citizens handicapped parking enforcement program that allows volunteers to issue parking tickets to vehicles and persons who violate the State’s handicapped parking laws.

(B) A person who is appointed as a volunteer under this section:

(1) must be a United States citizen of good character who has not been convicted of a felony;

(2) must take and subscribe to an oath of office that the political subdivision prescribes;

(3) must complete successfully a training program of at least four hours in length developed by the political subdivision;

(4) is not a law enforcement officer;

(5) has no law enforcement authority other than the authority to enforce the state’s provisions that regulate the parking of vehicles in handicapped parking spaces;

(6) may not carry a weapon while performing his duties under this section;

(7) is not entitled to compensation for performing any duty under this section; and

(8) is not entitled to indemnification from the political subdivision or the State for injury or property damage the person may incur in performing his duties under this section.

(C) A political subdivision and the State are not liable for any damage that may arise from an act or omission of a person appointed as a volunteer pursuant to subsection (A).”

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

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