**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

ENACTING THE EMERGENCY LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT BY DESIGNATING COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS AND THE INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATORS COMPRISING THESE DELEGATIONS EX OFFICIO, AS EMERGENCY LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AMBASSADORS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THESE AMBASSADORS, TO ESTABLISH THE EMERGENCY LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND PROVIDE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP, POWERS, AND DUTIES, TO ALLOW THE USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS IN AID OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS JOINT RESOLUTION, AND TO REPEAL THIS JOINT RESOLUTION AFTER THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

SECTION 1. This joint resolution may be cited as the “Emergency Local Economic Development Act”.

SECTION 2. County legislative delegations and the individual members comprising them, are ex officio, designated Emergency Local Economic Development Ambassadors for their specific counties, districts, and communities, and are authorized to take actions appropriate to implement purposes of this joint resolution.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding another provision of law, the local legislative delegations and the individual members comprising them designated Emergency Local Economic Development Ambassadors by this joint resolution are authorized to initiate, facilitate, coordinate, organize, research, or otherwise aid, support, or assist with promotion, marketing, outreach, communication, prospecting, or search activities in support of local economic development, industrial recruitment, or jobs creation, or any combination of these functions. Local legislative delegations are authorized to initiate any ad hoc Emergency Local Economic Development activities as they consider necessary consistent with their authority pursuant to this joint resolution. No additional compensation may be paid to a member of the General Assembly for ex officio duties pursuant to this joint resolution, except as may be appropriated by act of the General Assembly for per diem or direct expense reimbursements.

SECTION 4. Ambassadors designated pursuant to this joint resolution may not obligate the state financially, except as otherwise provided by act of the General Assembly or as approved by the Emergency Local Economic Development Council, created pursuant to Section 5.

SECTION 5. Funds appropriated by the General Assembly or derived from another source for activities in support of this joint resolution must be administered by a seven‑member Emergency Local Economic Development Council, which is hereby established, composed of seven members as follows:

(1) a nonlegislator appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) a nonlegislator appointed by the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee;

(3) a nonlegislative member appointed by the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee;

(4) a nonlegislative member appointed by the Chairman of the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee;

(5) a nonlegislator appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee;

(6) The Lieutenant Governor, ex officio, who shall serve as chairman; and

(7) a nonlegislative member of the State Budget and Control Board, appointed by a majority vote of the State Budget and Control Board, ex officio.

Appointed members serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority. Vacancies must be filled in the manner of original appointment.

SECTION 6. The council is authorized to seek funds and disperse grants, to be awarded only for Emergency Local Economic Development projects or activities which have been approved by the majority of the council in compliance with guidelines which have been prescribed by the council.

SECTION 7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1348(A) of the 1976 Code, the use of campaign funds in furtherance of the purposes of this joint resolution is allowed for the duration of this joint resolution.

SECTION 8. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor and is repealed after the fifth anniversary of that date.

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