**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑1‑490 SO AS TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITHIN A COUNTY TO COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN TO CENTRALIZE ALL ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS INTO ONE COUNTY OFFICE, TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF FOR THE OFFICE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL APPOINT AN ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF TO OVERSEE THE COUNTY OFFICE IF SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITHIN A COUNTY FAIL TO CENTRALIZE THESE OPERATIONS BY JULY 1, 2010; BY ADDING SECTION 59‑1‑495 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH COUNTY MAY HAVE NO MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, AND THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE BY LOCAL LAW FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF EACH COUNTYWIDE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT; AND TO PROVIDE THAT ALL ACTS OR PARTS OF ACTS THAT PROVIDE FOR MULTIPLE SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OR FOR MULTIPLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS WITHIN A COUNTY ARE REPEALED AS OF JULY 1, 2011.

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

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 1, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑1‑490. If a county is comprised of more than one school district, the school districts within that county must collaboratively develop and implement a plan to centralize all administrative functions including, but not limited to, personnel, procurement, finance, and transportation matters into one county office. A county may not have multiple offices to oversee these operations. Each county office must have no more than one administrator to supervise a staff of no more than ten people. If the school districts within a county fail to implement the provisions of this section by July 1, 2010, the State Superintendent of Education shall appoint an administrator and staff to centralize these operations.”

SECTION 2. Article 5, Chapter 1, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑1‑495. On July 1, 2011, the area of each county of this State may have no more than one school superintendent within its boundaries. The General Assembly, by local law before July 1, 2011, shall provide for the appointment of each countywide school superintendent.”

SECTION 3. All acts or parts of acts that provide for multiple school district administrative offices within a county or multiple school district superintendents within a county are repealed on July 1, 2011.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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