**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 779 OF 1988, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO LAURENS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS 55 AND 56, SO AS TO REVISE AND REDEFINE THE SINGLE‑MEMBER DISTRICTS FROM WHICH TRUSTEES ARE ELECTED; AND TO REDESIGNATE MAP NUMBERS ON WHICH THESE DISTRICTS ARE DELINEATED.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1B of Act 779 of 1988, as added by Act 447 of 2002, is amended to read:

“Section 1B. (A) One member of the Board of Trustees of School District 55 of Laurens County must reside in and be elected from each of the seven defined single‑member election districts by the electors within each election district as delineated in subsection (B) of this section.

(B) Beginning ~~with~~ after the primary election conducted in ~~2002~~ 2010, the seven defined single‑member election districts, from which each member of the Board of Trustees of Laurens County School District 55 must be elected by the qualified electors of that district, ~~are~~ as revised by the change to the boundary line defining Laurens County School District 55 where it is contiguous with Laurens County School District 56, are as shown on the official map designated as ~~S‑59‑55‑02~~ S‑59‑55‑10 prepared by and on file with the Office of Research and Statistical Services of the State Budget and Control Board. The Office of Research and Statistical Services of the State Budget and Control Board must provide a certified copy of the map to the school district and the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission. The official map must not be changed except by an act of the General Assembly or by a court of competent jurisdiction.”

SECTION 2. Section 2B of Act 779 of 1988, as added by Act 447 of 2002, is amended to read:

“Section 2B. (A) One member of the Board of Trustees of School District 56 of Laurens County must reside in and be elected from each of the seven defined single‑member election districts by the electors within each election district as delineated in subsection (B) of this section.

(B) Beginning ~~with~~ after the primary election conducted in ~~2002~~ 2010, the seven defined single‑member election districts, from which each member of the Board of Trustees of Laurens County School District 56 must be elected by the qualified electors of that district, ~~are~~ as revised by the change to the boundary line defining Laurens County School District 56 where it is contiguous with Laurens County School District 55, are as shown on the official map designated as ~~S‑59‑56‑02~~ S‑59‑56‑10 prepared by and on file with the Office of Research and Statistical Services of the State Budget and Control Board. The Office of Research and Statistical Services of the State Budget and Control Board must provide a certified copy of the map to the school district and the Laurens County Registration and Election Commission. The official map must not be changed except by an act of the General Assembly or by a court of competent jurisdiction.”

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding another provision of law, the maps referenced in this act only alter the boundary between Laurens County School Districts 55 and 56, and do not alter the boundaries of other school districts contiguous with Laurens County School Districts 55 and 56.

SECTION 4. A student attending a school in either Laurens County School District 55 or 56 on the effective date of this act may choose to attend the school he is attending or another school in either school district until his secondary education is completed.

SECTION 5. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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