**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44‑7‑295 SO AS TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS LICENSED IN THIS STATE TO INCLUDE PHYSICIANS WITH PRACTICE PRIVILEGES IN THE HOSPITAL IN REFERRAL ROTATIONS FOR UNASSIGNED PATIENTS AND SERVICES OR PROCEDURES, APPLICABLE TO THE PHYSICIANS AREA OF PRACTICE, UNLESS THE PHYSICIAN OPTS OUT OF THE ROTATION.

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

SECTION 1. Article 3, Chapter 7, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 44‑7‑295. A hospital licensed pursuant to this article which receives public funding from any source, including, but not limited to, Medicaid and Medicare, shall include all physicians who have practice privileges in that hospital in the referral rotation for unassigned patients, services, and procedures, as applicable to the physician’s area of practice, unless the physician elects to opt out of the rotation.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2010.

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