**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 43‑31‑40, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATE AGENCY OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, SO AS TO INCLUDE IN THE AGENCY’S MEMBERSHIP THE APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO REPRESENT THE SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, TO ELIMINATE THE AT-LARGE AGENCY MEMBER, AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE AGENCY’S TRANSITION FROM SIX TO SEVEN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MEMBERS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 43‑31‑40 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 43‑31‑40. The Governor shall appoint a State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation to be composed of seven members, ~~which~~ and this agency shall provide for the administration of this chapter. The members of the agency shall consist of one member from each congressional district ~~and one member at large~~. The Governor, upon the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint the members. The members ~~first appointed having been designated by the Governor to serve for terms of one, two, three, four, five, six and seven years respectively, each member of the Agency thereafter shall be appointed for~~ shall serve a term of seven years. The terms of office ~~shall~~ must always remain staggered so that the term of one member ~~shall expire~~ expires every year with appointments to fill unexpired terms caused by death, resignation or disability.”

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any person appointed to serve, or serving, as a member of the State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation to represent a congressional district, whose residency is transferred to another district by a change in the composition of the district, may serve, or continue to serve, the term of office for which he was appointed; however, the appointing authority shall appoint an additional member to the agency from the district which loses a resident member on it as a result of the transfer to serve until the term of the transferred member expires. When a vacancy occurs in the district to which a member has been transferred, the vacancy must not be filled until the full term of the transferred member expires.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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