**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 6‑11‑335 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT TO ENSURE A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNING BODY ABOVE A SIZE OF THREE, AN ELECTED GOVERNING BODY OF A PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT LOCATED WHOLLY IN ONE COUNTY WHICH PROVIDES WATER, SEWER, OR FIRE SERVICE WITHIN ITS SERVICE AREA MAY BE ENLARGED BY ADDITIONAL MEMBERS IN THE MANNER AND UNDER THE PROCEDURES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 6 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

Section 6‑11‑335. To ensure a representative governing body above a size of three, an elected governing body of a public service district located wholly in one county which provides water, sewer, or fire service within its service area may petition its county governing body to authorize additional members for the representative governing body. The county governing body in its discretion may approve the increase. Upon certification to the Secretary of State by the county governing body that additional members to that board have been authorized, the representative governing body shall be increased with additional members who shall be elected at the next regularly scheduled election for board members in the same manner other board members are elected to serve for terms of six years each and until their successors are elected and qualify; provided that of the additional members first elected, one‑half of the members receiving the highest number of votes shall serve an initial term of six years and the remaining one‑half of the members receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve an initial term of four years. Thereafter, their successors must be elected for terms of six years each. All board members shall serve until their successors are elected and qualify.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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