**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 24‑21‑10, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND PARDON SERVICES, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND PARDON SERVICES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE MEMBER OF THE BOARD WHO IS APPOINTED ON AN AT‑LARGE BASIS MUST BE SELECTED FROM ONE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AND AT LEAST ONE APPOINTEE SHALL POSSESS THE QUALIFICATIONS THAT THE AT‑LARGE APPOINTEE FORMERLY MET.

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

SECTION 1. Section 24‑21‑10(B) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 273 of 2010, is further amended to read:

“(B) The Board of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services is composed of seven members. The terms of office of the members are for six years. ~~Six~~ Each of the seven members must be appointed from each of the congressional districts ~~and one member must be appointed at large~~. ~~The at‑large~~ At least one appointee shall have at least five years of work or volunteer experience in one or more of the following fields: parole, probation, corrections, criminal justice, law, law enforcement, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, or social work. Vacancies must be filled by gubernatorial appointment with the advice and consent of the Senate for the unexpired term. If a vacancy occurs during a recess of the Senate, the Governor may fill the vacancy by appointment for the unexpired term pending the consent of the Senate, provided the appointment is received for confirmation on the first day of the Senate’s next meeting following the vacancy. A chairman must be elected annually by a majority of the membership of the board. The chairman may serve consecutive terms.”

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

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