**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 59‑1‑130, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF “TEACHER”, SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION BY REQUIRING CERTAIN MINIMUM TIME IN THE CLASSROOM AMONG OTHER CRITERIA.

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

SECTION 1. Section 59‑1‑130 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 59‑1‑130. (A) ‘Teacher’ means ~~any~~ a person who is employed either ~~full‑time~~ full time or ~~part‑time~~ part time by ~~any~~ a school district ~~either to teach or to supervise teaching~~ as a classroom teacher and who:

(1) spends at least thirty hours per week in a classroom as the primary instructor; and

(2) spends at least thirty consecutive minutes in the classroom with the same group of students for the periods of instruction related to a particular subject or course.

(B) Teachers’ aides, as defined in Section 59‑1‑140, are not classified as teachers even if they have a recognized certificate but must be classified as teachers’ aides.

(C) A teacher having fifteen hours or less in the classroom per week and who meets the other requirements of this section may be counted as a half teacher for statistical purposes.”

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

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