**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 59‑43‑20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE POWERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH REGARD TO ADULT EDUCATION AND GENERAL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMAS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE A GED CANDIDATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK KEYS PROGRAM OR ANOTHER SIMILAR WORK SKILLS PROGRAM CHOSEN BY THE BOARD AND PASS ANY RELATED ASSESSMENTS BEFORE HE IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GED.

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

SECTION 1. Section 59‑43‑20(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) The ~~State~~ board ~~of Education~~ is also responsible for the administration, coordination, and management of adult basic and adult secondary (GED and high school diploma) education for the purpose of facilitating and coordinating adult basic and adult secondary (GED and high school diploma) education programs for South Carolina adults whose level of educational attainment is below high school, as prescribed by state and federal laws and regulations. The board shall provide, among other requirements, that a GED candidate participate in the Work Keys program or another similar work skills program chosen by the board and pass related assessments before he is eligible to receive a GED. The ~~State~~ board ~~of Education~~ and the local school districts are responsible for effective coordination and utilization of literacy councils, the technical education system, the educational television network, nonprofit groups, business and industry representatives, and other state and local agencies and private persons interested in adult basic and adult secondary (GED and high school diploma) education programs to deliver programs to the state’s undereducated adult population.”

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

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