**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 1‑13‑120 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION TO ASSESS A CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF CHAPTER 13, TITLE 1, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE REVENUE FROM THIS PENALTY BE DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE AND APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 13, Title 1 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 1‑13‑120. (A) The State Human Affairs Commission may assess a civil penalty for a violation of this chapter. For a discriminatory action, a person may be assessed an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars. If the discriminatory act was a wilful act, a person may be assessed an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars.

(B) All monies resulting from the civil penalties assessed pursuant to the provisions of this section must be deposited in the general fund of the State and appropriated by the General Assembly as it considers necessary.

(C) If the person found to have violated the provisions of this chapter is an employer of fifty or fewer employees, a civil fine may be paid in installments by the employer.”

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

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