**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8‑3‑15 SO AS TO PROHIBIT A REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER FROM BEING APPOINTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE; AND BY ADDING SECTION 8‑11‑25 SO AS TO PROHIBIT A REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER FROM BEING EMPLOYED BY THE STATE.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑3‑15. A person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to the provisions of Article 7, Chapter 3, Title 23, Sex Offender Registry, or the laws of another state or jurisdiction, including but not limited to, a military or federal jurisdiction, is prohibited from being appointed to a public office.”

SECTION 2. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑11‑25. A person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to the provisions of Article 7, Chapter 3, Title 23, Sex Offender Registry, or the laws of another state or jurisdiction, including but not limited to, a military or federal jurisdiction, is prohibited from being employed by this State.”

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of this act, the General Assembly hereby declaring that it would have passed this act, and each and every section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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