~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

March 10, 2011

**H. 3249**

Introduced by Reps. G.M. Smith, Taylor and G.R. Smith

S. Printed 3/10/11--H.

Read the first time January 11, 2011.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 61‑6‑4020, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE, SO AS TO CLARIFY THAT THE LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT OR CARGO AREA IN WHICH ONE MAY LAWFULLY TRANSPORT A CONTAINER OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR WITH A BROKEN OR OPENED SEAL OR CAP IS NOT LIMITED TO A CLOSED TRUNK THAT IS ACCESSIBLE ONLY FROM THE EXTERIOR OF THE VEHICLE SO LONG AS THE LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT OR CARGO AREA IS SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM THE DRIVER’S AND PASSENGERS’ COMPARTMENTS; AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON’S DRIVER’S LICENSE MAY NOT BE SUSPENDED FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 61‑6‑4020 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 61‑6‑4020. (A) A person who is twenty‑one years of age or older may transport lawfully acquired alcoholic liquors to and from a place where alcoholic liquors may be lawfully possessed or consumed; but if the cap or seal on the container has been opened or broken, it is unlawful to transport the liquors in a motor vehicle, except in ~~the~~ a trunk, luggage compartment, or cargo area that is separate and distinct from the driver’s and passengers’ compartments. For purposes of this exception, the luggage compartment or cargo area is not required to be a closed trunk that is accessible only from the exterior of the motor vehicle. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days. A person’s driver’s license may not be suspended for a violation of this section. For purposes of this section, alcoholic liquors means all distilled spirits regardless of the percentage of alcohol by volume that they contain.

(B) Section 61-6-4290 and 61-6-4300 do not apply to violations of this statute.”

SECTION 2. A person whose driver’s license is currently suspended due solely to a violation of Section 61-6-4020 is eligible for immediate reinstatement upon payment of the reinstatement fee to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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