**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 57‑3‑790 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MUST CONDUCT A NOISE STUDY WHEN IT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT, EXPAND, OR IMPROVE A HIGHWAY.

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

SECTION 1. Article 7, Chapter 3, Title 57 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 57‑3‑790. During the Department of Transportation’s planning phase of a project to construct a new highway, expand, or make improvements to an existing highway, it must conduct a noise study to ensure that traffic that travels along this new, expanded, or improved highway shall not impact nearby residences, hotels, motels, schools, churches, and recreational areas at levels that meet or exceed 67 dBA.”

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

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