**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT “CAYLEE’S LAW” BY ADDING SECTION 16‑3‑1095 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON WHO HAS A LEGAL DUTY OF CARE FOR A CHILD TO FAIL TO REPORT TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR CONCEAL THE DEATH OR DISAPPEARANCE OF THE CHILD, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES.

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

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as “Caylee’s Law”.

SECTION 2. Article 11, Title 16 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 16‑3‑1095. (A) A person who has a legal duty of care over a child who fails to notify a law enforcement agency of the death or disappearance of the child within twenty‑four hours from when the person knew or should have known of the child’s death or disappearance is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than five years.

(B) A person who has a legal duty of care over a child who knowingly conceals the death or disappearance of the child by providing false information to a law enforcement agency with the intent to obstruct, delay, prevent, or impede the investigation of the death or disappearance of the child is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than five years.

(C) For the purpose of this section, ‘child’ means a person under the age of eighteen.”

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

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