**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 5‑7‑200, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO GROUNDS FOR FORFEITURE OF THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR COUNCILMAN AND THE FILLING OF A VACANCY IN EITHER OFFICE, SO AS TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF TIME THAT MAY BE UTILIZED TO FILL A VACANCY IN EITHER OFFICE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 5‑7‑200 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 5‑7‑200. ~~(a)~~(A) A mayor or councilman shall forfeit his office if he:

(1) lacks at any time during his term of office ~~any~~ a qualification for the office prescribed by the general law and the Constitution;

(2) violates ~~any~~ an express prohibition of Chapters 1 to 17; or

(3) is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.

~~(b)~~(B) A vacancy in the office of mayor or council ~~shall~~ must be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term at the next ~~regular~~ municipal election, or at a special election held pursuant to Section 7‑13‑190, if the vacancy occurs one hundred eighty days or more, or ninety days or less, prior to the next ~~general~~ municipal election.”

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

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