**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 10‑1‑176 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SLAVERY POINT‑OF‑ENTRY HISTORICAL MONUMENT; AND BY ADDING SECTION 10‑1‑177 SO AS TO CREATE THE SLAVERY POINT‑OF‑ENTRY HISTORICAL MONUMENT COMMISSION, TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, POWERS, AND DURATION OF THE COMMISSION.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 10 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 10‑1‑176. (A) There is established at the Historic Charleston City Market a Slavery Point‑of‑Entry Historical Monument to memorialize the historic significance of Charleston County as the major point‑of‑entry for African‑born slaves brought to America in the Eighteenth Century. The monument is to be represented by a statute located at the East Bay Street entrance and a statute located at the Meeting Street entrance of the Historic Charleston City Market in the City of Charleston.

(B) The design and precise locations of the statues must be determined by the commission appointed pursuant to Section 10‑1‑177. The statues must be erected as soon as is reasonably possible after it is approved by the General Assembly by concurrent resolution.”

SECTION 2. Chapter 1, Title 10 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 10‑1‑177. (A)(1) A Slavery Point‑of‑Entry Historical Monument Commission is created to determine the design of the monument’s statues and to determine their location at the East Bay Street entrance and Meeting Street entrance of the Historical Charleston City Market in the City of Charleston.

(2) The commission shall consist of eleven members as follows:

(a) the Mayor of Charleston or his designee shall serve in an ex officio capacity;

(b) five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(c) five members appointed by the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(3) Notwithstanding Section 8‑13‑770, members of the General Assembly may be appointed to this commission. Three of the members appointed by the President Pro Tempore must be members of the Senate and three of the members appointed by the Speaker must be members of the House of Representatives.

(4) The commission shall elect a chairman, vice chairman, and such other officers as it deems appropriate from among its membership. The senior senator of the commission shall call an organizational meeting for the purpose of electing officers, developing bylaws, and such other matters as may arise. Commission members are not entitled to receive the subsistence, mileage, and per diem otherwise provided by law for members of state boards, committees, and commissions.

(B)(1) The commission is empowered to raise private funds and to receive gifts and grants to carry out the purpose for which it is created.

(2) The commission in this regard shall have the power to cause to be created a tax exempt not‑for‑profit corporation the purpose of which is to receive and disburse funds for the Slavery Point‑of‑Entry Historical Monument.

(C) The staff of the State Budget and Control Board shall assist the commission with the preparation and maintenance of financial records for the purpose of ensuring proper accounting of the records.

(D) The financial records are public records for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, except that the names of anonymous donors may not be disclosed.

(E) By April 1, 2013, the commission shall report the proposed design and location of the statues to the General Assembly, which shall introduce the concurrent resolution serving as the instrument of approval as provided in Section 10‑1‑176(B).

(F) The State shall ensure proper maintenance of the monument.

(G) The commission established pursuant to this act is dissolved on January 1, 2013. However, the commission must be dissolved earlier if both the monument is dedicated and the final report is made before January 1, 2013, in which case the commission must be dissolved on the date of the later occurring event of the dedication of the monument or the receipt of the final report.”

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

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑