**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTIONS 44‑29‑150 AND 44‑29‑160, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BOTH RELATING TO PERSONS APPLYING FOR EMPLOYMENT IN SCHOOLS, KINDERGARTENS, NURSERY OR DAYCARE CENTERS TO BE TESTED FOR AND FREE FROM ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS AND PROVIDING THAT RETESTING OF CONSECUTIVELY RETURNING EMPLOYEES IS NOT REQUIRED, SO AS TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS RETURNING TO EMPLOYMENT IN CONSECUTIVE YEARS IN THESE SETTINGS TO BE TESTED AND FREE FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN AN ACTIVE STAGE.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 44‑29‑150 and 44‑29‑160 of the 1976 Code are amended to read:

“Section 44‑29‑150. ~~No person will be~~ An individual must not be initially hired to work in any public or private school, kindergarten, nursery, or ~~day care~~ childcare center for infants and children until ~~appropriately~~ the individual is evaluated for tuberculosis according to guidelines approved by the Board of Health and Environmental Control. ~~Re‑evaluation will not be~~ Reevaluation is required for ~~employment~~ individuals returning to employment in consecutive years unless otherwise indicated by ~~such~~ these guidelines.

Section 44‑29‑160. ~~Any person~~ An individual applying for a position or returning to a position in consecutive years in ~~any of~~ the public or private schools, kindergartens, nurseries, or ~~day care~~ childcare centers for infants and children of the State shall, as a prerequisite to employment and returning to employment in consecutive years, secure a health certificate from a licensed physician certifying that ~~such person~~ the individual does not have tuberculosis in an active stage.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor, and beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, applies to individuals applying for employment, to all existing employees, and to employees returning to employment in consecutive years in public or private schools, kindergartens, nurseries, or childcare centers for infants, and children of the State.

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