**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 7-7-10, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, RELATING TO THE LOCATION OF VOTING PLACES, TO ALLOW THAT IF A COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT A SUITABLE POLLING PLACE IS UNAVAILABLE WITHIN A VOTING PRECINCT, THAT THE COMMISSION MAY CHOOSE A LOCATION OUTSIDE THE PRECINCT IF THAT LOCATION IS WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE PRECINCT’S BOUNDARIES AND IS WITHIN THE COUNTY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 7-7-10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 7-7-10. (A) For the purpose of holding any general, primary, or special election in this State, the voting precincts and voting places in the several counties of the State shall be designated, fixed, and established by the General Assembly.

(B) Nothing in this chapter prohibits a county election commission from establishing multiple polling places within a precinct, provided that voters are assigned to these polling places alphabetically or geographically as determined by the county election commission and approved by a majority of that county’s legislative delegation.

(C) If the county election commission determines that a precinct contains no suitable location for a polling place, the commission, upon approval by a majority of that county's legislative delegation, may locate the polling place inside the county and within three miles of the precinct's boundaries.

(D) A voter must be notified in writing of his transfer to a new polling place and the location of the new polling place.”

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

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