**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 4‑23‑40, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO LEVY AND COLLECTION OF TAXES IN THE MURRELL’S INLET‑GARDEN CITY FIRE DISTRICT, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AN ADDITIONAL TEN MILLS.

Whereas, the Murrell’s Inlet‑Garden City Fire District is a special purpose district created pursuant to Act 876 of 1966. Included within the boundaries of the district are properties situated in both Georgetown and Horry Counties; and

Whereas, Section 6of Act 876 authorizes the auditors and treasurers of Georgetown and Horry Counties to levy and collect a tax of not more than five mills upon taxable property of the district within their respective jurisdictions in order to defray expenses incurred by the Board of Fire Control, the governing body of the district; and

Whereas, owing to the increase in operational and maintenance costs incurred by the district since 1966, in 1992, the General Assembly, pursuant to Act 598 of 1992, authorized levy and collection of an additional five mills; and

Whereas, Act 598 effectively amended Section 4‑23‑40 of the 1976 Code; and

Whereas, in 2000, pursuant to Act 451 of 2000, the General Assembly authorized the district to provide emergency medical services; and

Whereas, since Act 451, the district additionally has provided emergency medical services to the district; and

Whereas, after twenty years of the same millage despite the extra duties, the General Assembly finds it necessary to authorize the levy and collection of additional millage for the district so that the district can continue to supplement its duties by providing emergency medical services. Now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Section 4‑23‑40 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 4‑23‑40. The auditors and treasurers of Georgetown and Horry Counties are directed to levy and collect a tax of not more than ~~five~~ twenty mills, to be determined by the Board of Fire Control, upon all taxable property of the district for the purpose of defraying its operational and maintenance costs. All monies collected from this levy must be credited to the fire district.”

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

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