**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56‑1‑286, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE SUSPENSION OF A DRIVER’S LICENSE OR PERMIT, OR THE DENIAL OF A DRIVER’S LICENSE OR PERMIT TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF TWENTY‑ONE WHO DRIVES A MOTOR VEHICLE WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION, SO AS TO REMOVE THE PROHIBITION CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION THAT PRECLUDES A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO INITIATES SUSPENSION PROCEEDINGS FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION FROM PROSECUTING A PERSON FOR A VIOLATION OF SEVERAL OTHER SECTIONS THAT PERTAIN TO THE UNLAWFUL PURCHASE OR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF TWENTY‑ONE AND THE UNLAWFUL OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 56‑1‑286(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) The Department of Motor Vehicles must suspend the driver’s license, permit, or nonresident operating privilege of, or deny the issuance of a license or permit to a person under the age of twenty‑one who drives a motor vehicle and has an alcohol concentration of two one‑hundredths of one percent or more. ~~In cases in which a law enforcement officer initiates suspension proceedings for a violation of this section, the officer has elected to pursue a violation of this section and is subsequently prohibited from prosecuting the~~ Nothing in this section prohibits or limits the prosecution of a person for a violation of Section 63‑19‑2440, 63‑19‑2450, 56‑5‑2930, ~~or~~ 56‑5‑2933, or 56‑5‑2945 ~~arising from the same incident~~.”

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

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