**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 23‑1‑237 SO AS TO REQUIRE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO THEIR RETIREES ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR SERVICE IN EMPLOYMENT COVERED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA POLICE OFFICERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SCPORS) TO PROVIDE SUCH COVERAGE IF THE EMPLOYEE RETIRED ON SCPORS DISABILITY AS A RESULT OF AN INJURY ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYEE’S OFFICIAL DUTIES ON BEHALF OF HIS EMPLOYER AT THE TIME THE DISABILITY OCCURRED.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 23 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 23‑1‑237. (A) If a municipal, county, or special purpose or public service district employee who is an active contributing member of the South Carolina Police Officers Retirement System (SCPORS) is determined to be eligible for SCPORS disability retirement pursuant to Section 9‑11‑80 as a result of an injury arising out of and in the course of performance of the member’s official duties on behalf of his employer at the time the disability occurred, then upon retirement that retiree qualifies for health insurance coverage as may be provided by an employer described in subsection (B) of this section.

(B) If a municipality, county, a special purpose or public service district provides health insurance coverage to an individual retiring from its service who receives SCPORS retirement benefits earned by virtue of such service, then a retiree as described in subsection (A) of this section is eligible for such health insurance coverage to the maximum extent such coverage is provided by the employer to its SCPORS retirees, including any employer paid premiums for such coverage.”

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

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