**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑18‑125 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT NO COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL REPORT CARD OR OTHER REPORT RATING A PUBLIC SCHOOL OR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND NO OTHER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE RATING OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY PRODUCE OR OTHERWISE USE OR ASSIGN A LETTER GRADE RATING OF THE SCHOOL OR DISTRICT, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL NOT EMPLOY OR OFFER TO EMPLOY SUCH A LETTER GRADING SYSTEM WHEN SEEKING A WAIVER FROM A STATE OR FEDERAL SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY LAW.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 18, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑18‑125. A comprehensive report card or other report that rates a public school or public school district and no other academic performance rating of a public school or public school district may produce or otherwise use or assign a letter grade rating of the school or district. The state department of education shall not employ or offer to employ such a letter grading system when seeking a waiver from a state or federal school accountability law, including, but not limited to, the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1967, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., or any reauthorization of that act.”

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

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