**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44 SO AS TO BE ENTITLED “IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR PROVIDING FREE HEALTH CARE SERVICES”, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE SERVICES OF A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TREATING A PATIENT FREE OF CHARGE ARE DEEMED TO BE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN STATUTE, AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 15-1-310; TO REENTITLE CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44 AS “HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS”; AND TO DESIGNATE SECTIONS 44‑30‑10 THROUGH 44‑30‑90 AS ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44, ENTITLED “HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL COMPLIANCE ACT”.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 30, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Article 3

Immunity from Liability for Providing Free Health Care Services

Section 44‑30‑310. If a health care provider, licensed pursuant to the laws of this State, informs his or her patient before treatment that the treatment to be rendered by the health care provider will be provided free of charge, the services rendered are deemed to be within the scope of the Good Samaritan statute, pursuant to Section 15‑1‑310, mutatis mutandis.”

SECTION 2. A. Chapter 30, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is reentitled “Health Care Professionals”.

B. Sections 44‑30‑10 through 44‑30‑90 are designated as Article 1, Chapter 30, Title 44 and entitled “Health Care Professional Compliance Act”.

SECTION 3. When, at the time of printing the Code of Laws, it is practically and economically feasible, the Code Commissioner shall change references to “chapter” in Sections 44‑30‑10 through 44‑30‑90 of the 1976 Code to “article”.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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