**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 2‑20‑35 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF A TRUSTEE TO A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE FINDINGS OF FACT PRODUCED BY THE SCREENING COMMITTEE MUST CONTAIN AN ANALYSIS OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRIOR TO THE VACANCY AND AS A RESULT OF THE VACANCY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2‑20‑35 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 2‑20‑35. (A) Where a vacancy on a board of trustees of a college or university of this State, requiring election by the General Assembly to fill, has occurred for any reason other than expiration of the term and is unfilled at the beginning of an annual session of the General Assembly, a joint review committee to consider applicants for this vacancy and others of similar circumstances must be appointed within six legislative days after the annual session of the General Assembly convenes, and the election to fill this vacancy must occur within six weeks after the joint review committee is appointed unless no candidates for the office are offering for election who have been reviewed by the committee.

(B) The findings of fact required by Section 2‑20‑30 must contain a detailed analysis of the demographic representation on the board, including, but not limited to race, color, gender, and other factors such as residence in rural or urban areas, both prior to the vacancy and as a result of the vacancy.”

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

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑