**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTIONS 56‑3‑705 AND 56‑3‑715 SO AS TO ALLOW THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF AN UNTITLED UTILITY TRAILER UPON SUBMISSION OF PROOF OF OWNERSHIP SATISFACTORY TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PROVIDE THAT LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF AN UNTITLED UTILITY TRAILER IS NOT EVIDENCE OF OWNERSHIP FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN LICENSING AND REGISTRATION AND TO REQUIRE THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR A UTILITY TRAILER TO BE CREDITED TO THE STATE HIGHWAY FUND AND USED ONLY FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56‑3‑130, RELATING TO TRAILERS EXEMPT FROM LICENSING AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO DELETE THE EXEMPTION FOR NONFARM UTILITY TRAILERS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑705. A utility trailer may be licensed and registered without a title upon presentation with the registration application to the department of evidence of ownership satisfactory to the department. Licensing and registration of an untitled utility trailer is not evidence of ownership of the trailer for any other purpose except for licensing and registration.”

SECTION 2. Article 5, Chapter 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑715. Notwithstanding any other provision of law providing for the use of the registration fees imposed pursuant to this article, all revenue of the fee imposed pursuant to Section 56‑3‑700 for the registration of nonfarm utility trailers must be credited to the state highway fund and used only for highway maintenance.”

SECTION 3. Section 56‑3‑130 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 56‑3‑130. Boat trailers under twenty‑five hundred pounds~~,~~ and farm trailers ~~and other utility trailers~~ which are privately owned and not for hire need not be licensed or registered.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect January 1, 2016. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person may be charged with the violation of having an unregistered utility trailer before April 1, 2016.

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