~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

May 6, 2015

**H. 3151**

Introduced by Rep. G.R. Smith

S. Printed 5/6/15--H.

Read the first time January 13, 2015.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 59‑29‑120, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO REQUISITE STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND OTHER TEXTS REFLECTING THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS AND PUBLICLY‑SUPPORTED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MAY SATISFY THE INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENT OF THIS REQUIREMENT BY PROVIDING AND ASSIGNING CERTAIN RELATED READING; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑29‑130, RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT THESE SUBJECTS BE GIVEN FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR, SO AS TO REVISE THE REQUIREMENT FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 59‑29‑140, RELATING TO THE ROLE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION TO ENFORCE THESE STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND PRESCRIBE SUITABLE TEXTS, SO AS TO TRANSFER THESE FUNCTIONS, WITH RESPECT TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, TO THE COMMISSION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 59‑29‑120(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) All public high schools~~, colleges, and universities in this State that are sustained or in any manner supported by public funds shall~~ and all public institutions of higher learning, as defined in Section 59‑103‑5, shall give instruction in the essentials of the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers, including the study of ~~and devotion to~~ American institutions and ideals, and no student in any such school~~, college, or university~~ or public institution of higher learning may receive a certificate of graduation without previously passing a satisfactory examination upon the provisions and principles of the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers~~, and, if a citizen of the United States, satisfying the examining power of his loyalty thereto~~. A listing of recommended instructional materials may be identified by the Commission on Higher Education working in conjunction with the colleges and universities.

In addition to the instruction required by this section in the essentials of the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers the same such instruction must be given in African‑American history and in Native‑American history of the Aboriginal peoples indigenous to South Carolina.”

SECTION 2. Section 59‑29‑140 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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