**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑700, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE USE OF AN OFFICIAL POSITION OR OFFICE FOR FINANCIAL GAIN BY CERTAIN PUBLIC OFFICIALS, PUBLIC MEMBERS, AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, PUBLIC MEMBER, OR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE WHO MUST RECUSE HIMSELF SHALL DO SO AT ANY TIME THE MATTER IS BEFORE THE BODY, A REGULAR OR STANDING SUBSET OF THE BODY, OR APPROPRIATE AGENCY; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑745, RELATING TO PAID REPRESENTATION OF CLIENTS AND CONTRACTING BY MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND BUSINESSES WITH WHICH THEY ARE ASSOCIATED AND PROHIBITIONS ON REPRESENTATION OF CONTESTED CASES UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, SO AS TO INCREASE THE LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN VOTING ON A MATTER AND THE REPRESENTATION FROM TWELVE MONTHS TO TWENTY‑FOUR MONTHS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8‑13‑700 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 40 of 2011, is further amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( ) Any public official, public member, or public employee who must recuse himself pursuant to this section shall do so at any time the matter is before the body, a regular or standing subset of the body, or agency of which the public official, public member, or public employee is a member.”

SECTION 2. Section 8‑13‑745(A) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 248 of 1991, is amended to read:

“(A) No member of the General Assembly or an individual with whom he is associated or business with which he is associated may represent a client for a fee in a contested case, as defined in Section 1‑23‑310, before an agency, a commission, board, department, or other entity if the member of the General Assembly has voted in the election, appointment, recommendation, or confirmation of a member of the governing body of the agency, board, department, or other entity within the ~~twelve~~ twenty‑four preceding months.”

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

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