**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO REFORM ALIMONY, TO PROVIDE FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE AND THE METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS, TO REQUIRE THE STUDY COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A REPORT WITH FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND TO INCLUDE A SUNSET PROVISION FOR THE STUDY COMMITTEE.

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

SECTION 1. (A) There is created the Alimony Reform Study Committee to study the alimony laws of this State including, but not limited to, the length of time alimony is awarded, the amount of alimony awarded, the consistency of alimony awarded, and the factors and circumstances surrounding the awards.

(B) The study committee must be composed of:

(1) three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee;

(2) three members of the Senate appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee;

(3) one member, who is not a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(4) one member, who is not a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(5) one member appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the South Carolina Bar; and

(6) one member appointed by the Governor who is a member of a group focused on alimony reform.

(C) The study committee shall prepare a report for the General Assembly that sets forth findings and recommendations relevant to the purposes of the study committee and provide its report to the General Assembly by December 31, 2015, at which time the study committee must be dissolved.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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