COMMITTEE REPORT

February 25, 2016

**H. 4846**

Introduced by Reps. Sandifer, Gambrell, Gagnon, Hill, Putnam, Thayer, White and Whitmire

S. Printed 2/25/16--H.

Read the first time February 4, 2016.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Concurrent Resolution (H. 4846) to urge the governing bodies of Anderson and Oconee Counties to dissolve their thirty‑two year old agreement to have one master‑in‑equity to serve both counties, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

F. GREGORY DELLENEY, JR. for Committee.

**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO URGE THE GOVERNING BODIES OF ANDERSON AND OCONEE COUNTIES TO DISSOLVE THEIR THIRTY‑TWO YEAR OLD AGREEMENT TO HAVE ONE MASTER‑IN‑EQUITY TO SERVE BOTH COUNTIES, AND TO ESTABLISH A MASTER‑IN‑EQUITY COURT IN EACH COUNTY PURSUANT TO SECTION 14‑11‑10 OF THE 1976 CODE.

Whereas, pursuant to H.3996 of 1984, the South Carolina General Assembly resolved that one master‑in‑equity could adequately serve both Anderson and Oconee Counties; and

Whereas, in the thirty‑two years since the governing bodies of both counties formally agreed to share one master‑in‑equity, the population of Anderson County has increased by approximately 55,000 residents, while the population of Oconee County has increased by approximately 26,000 residents; and

Whereas, this significant increase in population justifies the establishment of a master‑in‑equity court in each of these two counties; and

Whereas, according to the latest official United States Decennial Census, and pursuant to Section 14‑11‑10 of the 1976 Code, the population of Anderson County significantly exceeds the requisite minimum to have a full‑time master‑in‑equity, and Oconee County is authorized to have its own part‑time master‑in‑equity. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, urge the governing bodies of Anderson and Oconee Counties to dissolve their thirty‑two year old agreement to have one master‑in‑equity to serve both counties, and to establish a master‑in‑equity court in each county pursuant to Section 14‑11‑10 of the 1976 Code.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the governing bodies of Anderson and Oconee Counties.

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