**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO APPROVE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, RELATING TO STANDARDS FOR LICENSING HOSPICES, DESIGNATED AS REGULATION DOCUMENT NUMBER 4553, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 23, TITLE 1 OF THE 1976 CODE.

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

SECTION 1. The regulations of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, relating to Standards for Licensing Hospices, designated as Regulation Document Number 4553, and submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Article 1, Chapter 23, Title 1 of the 1976 Code, are approved.

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

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SUMMARY AS SUBMITTED

BY PROMULGATING AGENCY.

Regulation 61‑78 was last amended in 2002. Hospices provide a continuum of medically supervised palliative and supportive care for the terminally ill patient and the family including inpatient services and outpatient services. Hospice facilities house licensed hospices that provide room, board, and appropriate hospice services on a twenty‑four (24) hour basis to individuals requiring hospice care pursuant to the orders of a physician. The amendments herein include the Department’s effort to incorporate updates and clarification relating to hospice licensure requirements, accident and/or incident reports, patient and medical record maintenance, emergency procedures and disaster preparedness, patient care, treatment, and services, design and construction, and fire and life safety. In addition, corrections have been made for clarity, readability, grammar, references, codification, and overall improvement to the text of the regulation.

A Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on July 25, 2014.

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