**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 7‑3‑20, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT ALL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION DIRECTIVES TO THE COUNTY BOARDS OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS MUST BE IN WRITING AND SENT TO BOTH THE DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN OF THE COUNTY BOARDS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 7‑3‑25, RELATING TO NONCOMPLIANT COUNTY BOARDS OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS MAY APPEAL TO THE FULL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION A DIRECTIVE FROM THE STAFF OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION MADE TO THE COUNTY BOARD.

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

SECTION 1. Section 7‑3‑20 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 196 of 2014, is further amended by adding subsection (E) at the end to read:

“(E) All State Election Commission directives to the county boards of voter registration and elections must be in writing and sent to both the directors and chairmen of the county boards.”

SECTION 2. Section 7‑3‑25 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 196 of 2014, is amended by adding subsection (D) at the end to read:

“(D) A county board of voter registration and elections may appeal to the full State Election Commission a directive from the staff of the State Election Commission made to the county board. The county board shall exercise its appellate rights within forty‑five days of receiving the directive to which it objects.”

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

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