**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 11-43-140 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS, TO MAKE THE GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11-43-140 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 11-43-140.(A) The board of directors is the governing board of the bank. The board consists of seven voting directors appointed by the Governor ~~as follows: the Chairman of the Department of Transportation Commission, ex officio; one director appointed by the Governor who shall serve as chairman; one director appointed by the Governor; one director appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker, ex officio; one director appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and one member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, ex officio~~. The chairman and vice chairman must be elected by the board. ~~Directors appointed by the Governor, the Speaker, and the President Pro Tempore shall serve terms coterminous with those of their appointing authority. The terms for the legislative members are coterminous with their terms of office. The vice chairman must be elected by the board.~~ Directors shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor until their successors are appointed. In the event of a vacancy due to death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor must appoint the director’s successor. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy must be appointed in the same manner as the original appointee ~~for the remainder of the unexpired term~~.

(B) In making appointments to the board, the Governor shall take into account race, gender, and other demographic factors, such as residence in rural or urban areas, so as to represent, to the greatest extent possible, all segments of the population of the State; however, consideration of these factors in making an appointment in no way creates a cause of action or basis for an employee grievance for a person appointed or for a person who fails to be appointed. The members of the board shall represent the transportation needs of the State as a whole and may not subordinate the needs of the State to those of any particular area of the State. Persons appointed to the board shall possess practical and successful business and executive ability and be knowledgeable in the field of transportation.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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