**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 17‑5‑130, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO CORONER QUALIFICATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS ELECTED AS CORONER AND COMPLETES NECESSARY TRAINING IS QUALIFIED TO SERVE AS CORONER.

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

SECTION 1. Section 17‑5‑130(A)(2) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (A)(1), a coroner in this State ~~shall have at least one of the following qualifications, the person shall~~ must:

(a) have at least three years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;

(b) have a two‑year associate degree and two years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;

(c) have a four‑year baccalaureate degree and one year of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;

(d) be a law enforcement officer, as defined by Section 23‑23‑10(E)(1), who is certified by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council with a minimum of two years of experience;

(e) have completed a recognized forensic science degree or certification program or be enrolled in a recognized forensic science degree or certification program to be completed within one year of being elected to the office of coroner;

(f) be a medical doctor; ~~or~~

(g) have a bachelor of science degree in ~~nursing.~~ nursing; or

(h) have completed the training requirements defined in subsection (C) by the end of the calendar year after being elected.”

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

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