**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 57‑25‑150, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERMITS FOR ERECTING AND MAINTAINING OUTDOOR SIGNS, SO AS TO REVISE THE CATEGORIES OF PERMITS THAT ARE VOID, AND TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL REISSUE PERMITS FOR NONCONFORMING SIGNS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED BY VANDALISM TO ANY EXTENT, PROVIDED SUCH SIGNS ONLY MAY BE REERECTED IN KIND.

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

SECTION 1. Section 57‑25‑150(G) and (H) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(G) Permits for the following signs are void:

(1) conforming sign which is removed voluntarily for more than thirty days;

(2) ~~conforming sign which is removed, dismantled, or destroyed by an act of God or vandalism for more than sixty days;~~

~~(3)~~ nonconforming sign which is removed voluntarily ~~or removed, dismantled, or destroyed by an act of God or vandalism~~ by the owner.

(H) Notwithstanding department regulations concerning the extent of destruction involved, permits must be reissued for nonconforming signs completely or partially damaged by vandalism, provided those signs only may be reerected in kind.

~~(H)~~(I)(1) National Historic Landmark Section 501(C)(3) properties located along South Carolina highways and properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the Department of the Interior which are located along South Carolina highways are allowed to erect small directional signs no more frequently than one a mile within six miles of such properties.

(2) The signs shall state the name of the historic property and mileage and comprise no more than twenty letters measuring no more than fifteen inches by thirty‑six inches and painted using a single color or a neutral background.

(3) The South Carolina Department of Transportation shall issue a permit sticker for each sign for an annual fee of fifteen dollars a sign. The department is also authorized to issue regulations as are necessary to implement the permit process and the conditions and restrictions for the proper placement, height, and design as necessary to the efficient administration of this subsection. The department has no responsibility for erecting these permitted signs.”

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

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑