**A** **BILL**

TO DESIGNATE WINTHROP UNIVERSITY AS THE HEADQUARTERS AND PRIMARY HOST UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS PROGRAM, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE POLICIES ADOPTED BY WINTHROP UNIVERSITY SHALL SERVE AS THE POLICIES FOR ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. (A) Winthrop University shall serve as the headquarters and primary host university of the South Carolina Small Business Development Centers program. All authorized state appropriations, including those associated with the state director’s office and associated support staff are transferred to and become part of Winthrop University. The policies, including human resources policies and evaluation policies, adopted by Winthrop University for the program shall serve as the policies for all employees of the program. Each host institution must continue to support the program with at least the same level of funding and the same level of resources, including office space, as the host institution did so in Fiscal Year 2016‑2017.

(B) Nothing in this section may be construed to suspend or close the program at any host institution.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2017.

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