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Indicates New Matter

AS PASSED BY THE SENATE

February 7, 2018

**H. 4397**

Introduced by Rep. Cobb‑Hunter

L. Printed 2/7/18--S.

Read the first time January 31, 2018.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND AN ACT OF 2017, BEARING RATIFICATION NUMBER 127, RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE THREE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY INTO ONE SCHOOL DISTRICT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019, SO AS TO REVISE PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE BUDGET OF THE ORANGEBURG CONSOLIDATION TRANSITION COMMITTEE, AND TO REVISE CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS CONTAINING OBSOLETE 2017 LANGUAGE.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. SECTION 8 of R127, S662 of 2017 is amended by striking SECTION 8 and inserting:

SECTION 8. (A) There must be created, within sixty days of the effective date of this act, the Orangeburg Consolidation Transition Committee with the purpose to coordinate the consolidation of the three present districts into the Orangeburg County School District. The committee must be composed of the following twelve voting members:

(1) chairmen of the present three districts or their designees;

(2) one board member from each of the present three districts, appointed by each board; and

(3) six at large members appointed by the Orangeburg County Legislative Delegation. These six members must be appointed from Orangeburg County at large and shall possess experience in or professional or acquired knowledge of public education, finance, business, or legal matters.

In addition to the twelve voting members of the committee, the three superintendents from the present three school districts shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members. One parent from each of the three present districts also must be appointed by the Orangeburg County Legislative Delegation to serve as nonvoting members.

(B) Names of the members of the transition committee must be submitted to the county legislative delegation within sixty days of this act being signed by the Governor. The committee shall elect a chairman from one of the six at large voting members appointed by the legislative delegation. A vacancy on the committee must be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the committee member whose departure from the committee created the vacancy.

(C) The committee may organize, begin planning for the changeover to the district, enter into contracts to effectuate these purposes, and perform other related matters. The committee also shall examine and make appropriate recommendations to the consolidated district board of trustees regarding the foreseeable consequences of school district consolidation on:

(1) Orangeburg County’s special needs students; and

(2) intradistrict transfers.

(D) The committee must be insured and indemnified in the same manner as the present school districts are insured and indemnified.

(E) Members of the committee shall receive per diem allowed by law for members of state boards, committees, or commissions but are not entitled to mileage and subsistence.

(F) The committee must be abolished after making its recommendations to the consolidated district board of trustees.

(G) The administrations and staffs of the present three school districts are expected and encouraged to cooperate with the transition committee and the board of the school district.

(H) In creating the Orangeburg County School District, it is anticipated that there will be savings in the total district level administrative costs from the former individual districts. The committee shall review the current administrations and recommend to the board the number and type of positions needed for the consolidated district level administration.

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

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