**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 57‑9‑10, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE FILING OF A PETITION TO ABANDON OR CLOSE A STREET, ROAD, OR HIGHWAY, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MUST NOTIFY IN WRITING ALL RESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLDS WITHIN A TEN‑MILE RADIUS OF A PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION WHO REPRESENT THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE IS LOCATED, PRIOR TO FILING A PETITION FOR THE CLOSURE OF A RURAL STATE‑MAINTAINED ROAD.

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

SECTION 1. Section 57‑9‑10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 57‑9‑10. (A) Any interested person, the State or any of its political subdivisions or agencies may petition a court of competent jurisdiction to abandon or close any street, road or highway whether opened or not. Prior to filing the petition, notice of intention to file shall be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in the county where such street, road or highway is situated. Notice also shall be sent by mail requiring a return receipt to the last known address of all abutting property owners whose property would be affected by any such change, and posted by the petitioning party along the street, road, or highway, subject to approval of the location of the posting by the governmental entity responsible for maintenance of the street, road, or highway. The Department of Transportation shall promulgate regulations which once effective will establish the minimum mandatory size, language, and specific positioning of signs pursuant to this section.

(B) In addition to the provisions contained in subsection (A), the Department of Transportation must notify in writing all residential households within a ten‑mile radius of a proposed road closure and the members of the legislative delegation who represent the county in which the proposed road closure is located prior to filing a petition for the closure of a rural state‑maintained road.”

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

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