**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 53‑3‑230 SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE FIRST DAY OF JUNE OF EACH YEAR AS “REVEREND IKE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Reverend Frederick J. Eikerenkoetter II, better known as Reverend Ike, was born in Ridgeland, SC, on June 1, 1935, and died on July 28, 2009, in Los Angeles, CA; and

Whereas, he was the son of a Baptist minister. His mother was a teacher in the one‑room school he attended, a four‑mile‑walk each way from their home; and

Whereas, called to the ministry at age fourteen, he became associate pastor at a local Pentecostal church. He graduated from the American Bible School in Chicago in 1956. Later, he earned a doctorate degree from New York University. He served two years in the Air Force Chaplain Service and formed the United Church of Jesus Christ for All People after returning to Ridgeland. He moved to Boston in 1964 and established the faith‑healing Miracle Temple; and

Whereas, in 1966, Reverend Eikerenkoetter moved to New York City where he established his mega‑ministry, which included churches in Boston, New York, and South Carolina. His Science Living Ministry began with a few but grew to serve millions. Now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 53 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 53‑3‑230. The first day of June of each year is designated as ‘Reverend Ike Day’ in South Carolina.”

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

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