**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8‑11‑735 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IN THE EVENT OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY, A STATE EMPLOYEE MAY MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO HIS EMPLOYING AGENCY THAT A SPECIFIED NUMBER OF HOURS OF HIS ACCRUED ANNUAL OR SICK LEAVE ACCOUNT, OR BOTH, BE TRANSFERRED FROM HIS ANNUAL OR SICK LEAVE ACCOUNT, OR BOTH, TO A SPECIFIC LEAVE RECIPIENT RATHER THAN TO A LEAVE POOL ACCOUNT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE AGENCY DIRECTOR, AND TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND PROCEDURES IN REGARD TO THIS PROVISION.

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

SECTION 1. Article 9, Chapter 11, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑11‑735. In the event of a medical emergency, a state employee may make a written request to his employing agency that a specified number of hours of his accrued annual or sick leave account, or both, be transferred from his annual or sick leave account, or both, to a specific leave recipient rather than to a leave pool account, subject to the approval of the agency director. If the applicable agency director does not approve of the leave donation authorized by this section, the employee may appeal this decision in the same manner other state agency grievances are appealed. An employee with less than fifteen days in his sick leave account may not transfer any sick leave to the recipient, and an employee with more than fifteen days in his sick leave account may transfer sick leave to the recipient if he retains a minimum of fifteen days in his own sick leave account. Once leave of an employee has been transferred to the recipient, it may not be restored or returned to the leave donor. For purposes of this provision, a medical emergency is defined as a medical condition of the employee or a family member that will require the prolonged absence of the employee from duty and will result in a substantial loss of income to the employee because the employee will have exhausted all paid leave available apart from the leave‑sharing plan.”

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

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