**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 44‑75‑20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO TERMS DEFINED IN THE ATHLETIC TRAINERS’ ACT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SO AS TO CHANGE THE DEFINITION OF “ATHLETIC TRAINER”; TO AMEND SECTION 44‑75‑40, RELATING TO SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF AN ATHLETIC TRAINER’S CERTIFICATE TO PRACTICE, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO TAKE CERTAIN DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, INCLUDING IMPOSITION OF MONETARY PENALTIES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 44‑75‑50, RELATING TO CERTIFICATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS, SO AS TO REVISE THE NAME OF THE REQUIRED EXAMINATION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44‑75‑20(a) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(a) ‘Athletic trainer’ means ~~a person~~ an allied health professional with specific qualifications as set forth in Section 44‑75‑50 who, upon the advice and consent of a licensed physician, carries out the practice of care, prevention, and physical rehabilitation of athletic injuries, and who, in carrying out these functions, may use physical modalities, including, but not limited to, heat, light, sound, cold, electricity, or mechanical devices related to rehabilitation and treatment.”

SECTION 2. Section 44‑75‑40(d) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(d) The department must suspend or revoke a certificate so issued at any time it is determined that the holder no longer meets the prescribed qualifications set forth by the department or has failed to provide athletic training services of a quality acceptable by the department. The department is authorized to suspend, deny, or revoke an athletic trainer’s certificate, and impose a civil monetary penalty for violations of a regulation promulgated pursuant to this article.”

SECTION 3. Section 44‑75‑50 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 44‑75‑50. An applicant for an athletic trainer certification must pass the ~~National Athletic Trainers’ Association~~ Board of Certification, Inc., (BOC) examination and have met the athletic training curriculum requirements of a college or university and give proof by means of a certified transcript.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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