AMENDED

March 28, 2018

**S. 709**

Introduced by Senator Hembree

S. Printed 3/28/18--S.

Read the first time May 8, 2017.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 4 TO CHAPTER 23, TITLE 59 SO AS TO REQUIRE FIRE AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS AT ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES AT LEAST ANNUALLY, AND TO PROVIDE RELATED POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 17, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑17‑160. Each school district board of trustees and the governing body of each charter school shall adopt a policy and program for school facility fire and safety, including inspections, before the beginning of the 2019‑2020 School Year. The policy and program must:

(1) be adopted in open meetings in which the public may provide comment on the terms of the policies and programs;

(2) include routine self‑assessments; and

(3) be published on the district’s or charter school’s Internet website in a prominent location that is easily accessible by the public.”

SECTION 2. Section 59‑63‑910 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 59‑63‑910. All ~~teachers or superintendents~~ principals and charter school leaders in charge of the schools of the State which are supported in whole or in part by taxation shall conduct ~~fire~~ safety and security drills at least once each month. ~~Any teacher or superintendent failing to observe the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than twenty‑five dollars for each offense. Such fine shall be deducted from his salary and turned over to the county treasurer for ordinary county purposes~~ No fewer than six of these drills must be fire drills.”

SECTION 3. Section 59‑63‑920 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 59‑63‑920. The principal or ~~supervising teacher~~ charter school leader of each school shall ~~indicate on his monthly pay voucher whether he has complied~~ comply with the requirements of Section 59‑63‑910~~, and should it appear that he has failed to do so the superintendent of education shall deduct from that teacher’s salary the minimum fine for the first offense and the maximum fine for each following offense~~ and document their compliance.”

SECTION 4. Section 59-63-930 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 5. Article 9, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is redesignated “Safety and Security Drills.”

SECTION 6. This act takes effect upon approval of the Governor.

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