**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56‑3‑115 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ADD A NOTATION TO A PRIVATE PASSENGER‑CARRYING MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION TO INDICATE THE VEHICLE OWNER MAY BE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING.

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

SECTION 1. Article 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑115. The Department of Motor Vehicles may add a notation to a private passenger‑carrying motor vehicle registration to indicate that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing. The application for this special motor vehicle registration notation must include an original certificate from a licensed physician, as defined in Section 40‑75‑5, that certifies that the applicant has a permanent, uncorrectable hearing loss of forty decibels or more in one or both ears. The ‘deaf or hard of hearing’ notation would only appear when a law enforcement check is run on the vehicle’s license plate to alert the officer that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing.”

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

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