AMENDED

February 12, 2019

**H. 3388**

Introduced by Reps. Jordan, Cogswell and Hixon

S. Printed 2/12/19--H.

Read the first time January 8, 2019.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 53‑3‑95 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE MONTH OF APRIL OF EACH YEAR IS DECLARED “MOVE OVER AWARENESS MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONDUCT PROGRAMS DURING THIS MONTH THAT EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS MOVING OVER INTO AN ADJACENT LANE WHENEVER POSSIBLE WHEN APPROACHING OR PASSING THROUGH A HIGHWAY WORK ZONE, AN EMERGENCY SCENE, OR ANY OTHER HIGHWAY TRAFFIC INCIDENT; BY ADDING SECTION 56‑5‑1539 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN STATE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES MUST ALLOW A DRIVER OF A WRECKER OR TOWING SERVICE VEHICLE TO TAKE TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING FREE OF CHARGE; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56‑5‑1538, REGARDING EMERGENCY SCENE MANAGEMENT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES SHALL PRINT INFORMATION IN ITS DRIVER’S MANUALS RELATING TO THE STATE’S “MOVE OVER LAW”.

Amend Title To Conform

Whereas, law enforcement officers, highway construction workers, and first responders face many dangers in their honorable mission to protect and serve the citizens of and visitors to the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, the number of law enforcement officers, highway construction workers, and first responders who have been struck and killed while working along our highways remains high; and

Whereas, the State has made great strides toward reducing the number of fatalities through its move over campaign by erecting signs around the State that contain the words “Move Over or Reduce Speed For Stopped Emergency Vehicles”, media interviews, public safety announcements, and printed materials; and

Whereas, through awareness and proper education, members of the public can make additional strides toward reducing the number of injuries and deaths along our highways by enhancing the state’s move over campaign by dedicating the month of April of every year toward achieving this goal. 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 53‑3‑95. The month of March of every year is declared ‘Move Over Awareness Month’ in South Carolina. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety shall conduct programs during the month of March that emphasize the importance of motor vehicle drivers moving over into an adjacent lane whenever possible when approaching or passing through a highway work zone, an emergency scene, or any other traffic incident.”

SECTION 2. Article 11, Chapter 5, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑5‑1539. The Department of Transportation must allow a driver of a wrecker or towing service vehicle to take traffic incident management training free of charge.”

ECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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