**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 2‑17‑15, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERSONS PROHIBITED FROM SERVING AS LOBBYISTS, SO AS TO INCREASE THE WAITING PERIOD FROM ONE TO FIVE YEARS DURING WHICH THESE PERSONS MAY NOT SERVE AS A LOBBYIST AFTER LEAVING PUBLIC OFFICE, AND TO CONFORM THE APPLICABLE DATES OF THESE PERSONS’ ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT TO PUBLIC OFFICE OR SERVICE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2‑17‑15 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 2‑17‑15. (A) The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, a member of the General Assembly, a director or deputy director of a state department appointed by the Governor and a member of the immediate family of any of these public officials may not serve as a lobbyist during the time the official holds office and for ~~one year~~ five years after such public service ends.

(B) The provisions of this section apply to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, or any other statewide constitutional officer who is elected after December 31, ~~1993~~ 2017, or any member of the General Assembly who is elected after December 31, ~~1991~~ 2017, and any director or deputy director of a state department appointed after June 30, ~~1993~~ 2017.”

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

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