**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 60 OF 2017, RELATING TO CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS BY THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION, SO AS TO CHANGE THE TIME EFFECTIVE DATE TO JULY 1, 2020.

Whereas, in Act 60 of 2017, the South Carolina General Assembly enacted various provisions concerning criminal background checks for licensees of the South Carolina Real Estate Commission, effective three years after approval by the Governor; and

Whereas, the Governor approved Act 60 of 2017 on May 19, 2017, which makes May 19, 2020, the effective date of that act; and

Whereas, the May 19, 2020, effective date falls during a licensee renewal period, which would make the criminal background check provisions applicable to some applicants for license renewal but not others, creating a disparate effect and unnecessarily complicating the renewal process for these hardworking professionals; and

Whereas, the General Assembly finds it necessary to revise the effective date of Act 60 of 2017 to occur immediately after the conclusion of this license renewal period. Now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. SECTION 5 of Act 60 of 2017 is amended to read:

“SECTION 5. This act takes effect ~~three years after approval by the Governor~~ July 1, 2020.”

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

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