**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8‑11‑184 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION SHALL ESTABLISH A “DISPLACED STATE EMPLOYEE READJUSTMENT FUND” TO BE USED FOR CREATING AND OPERATING A DISPLACED STATE EMPLOYEE READJUSTMENT APPLICANT POOL FOR THE PURPOSE OF HELPING PUBLIC AGENCY AND QUASI‑PUBLIC AGENCY WORKERS DISPLACED BY THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF THE AGENCY OR QUASI‑PUBLIC AGENCY TRANSITION TO CERTAIN OTHER EMPLOYMENT BY GIVING THEM FIRST PRIORITY CONSIDERATION FOR FILLING VACANCIES OR NEW POSITIONS AT OTHER STATE AGENCIES OR QUASI‑PUBLIC AGENCIES, TO PROVIDE RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, STATE AGENCIES, AND QUASI‑PUBLIC AGENCIES IN THIS STATE, AND TO LIMIT APPLICABILITY OF THESE PROVISIONS TO AGENCIES EMPLOYING ONE HUNDRED OR MORE WORKERS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑11‑184. (A) The South Carolina Department of Administration, through funds appropriated by the General Assembly, shall establish a ‘Displaced State Employee Readjustment Fund’ to be used for creating and operating a Displaced State Employee Readjustment Applicant Pool by the Office of Human Resources, the purpose of which is to help public agency and quasi‑public agency workers displaced by the sale or transfer of the agency or quasi‑public agency transition to certain other employment by giving them first priority consideration for filling vacancies or new positions at other state agencies or quasi‑public agencies.

(B) If a state agency or quasi‑public agency is transferred or sold by the State, any agency workers displaced by the transfer must be reported to the Office of Human Resources by the entity to which the agency or instrumentality is transferred or sold within sixty days before the workers employment may be terminated. The Office of Human Resources shall include information on all such displaced employees in the Displaced State Employee Readjustment Pool. The information must include, but is not limited to, the name and social security number of the person, the position held, years of experience, and any job classification, grade, and Employee Performance Management System status for those displaced state employees wishing to be considered for other positions.

(C) An agency seeking to fill a vacancy or a new position must obtain information from the Office of Human Resources’ Displaced State Employee Readjustment Applicant Pool. An agency shall provide first priority consideration, including above employees in the Reduction in Force (RIF) Pool, to employees in the Displaced State Employee Readjustment Applicant Pool. An agency is prohibited from filling a position if the agency does not first seek to fill the position from among these qualified employees provided by the Office of Human Resources.

(D) The provisions of this section apply to agencies employing one hundred or more workers.”

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

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