**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑775, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION AGAINST A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, PUBLIC MEMBER, OR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE HAVING AN ECONOMIC INTEREST IN CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACTS, SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE RECEIPT OF TRAVEL, REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL, OR ANYTHING OF VALUE FROM A BIDDER ON A GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACT IF THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL, PUBLIC MEMBER, OR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE IS AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM AN OFFICIAL FUNCTION RELATING TO THE CONTRACT.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8‑13‑775 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑775. (A) A public official, public member, or public employee may not have an economic interest in a contract with the State or its political subdivisions if the public official, public member, or public employee is authorized to perform an official function relating to the contract. Official function means writing or preparing the contract specifications, acceptance of bids, award of the contract, or other action on the preparation or award of the contract. This section is not intended to infringe on or prohibit public employment contracts with this State or a political subdivision of this State nor does it prohibit the award of contracts awarded through a process of public notice and competitive bids if the public official, public member, or public employee has not performed an official function regarding the contract.

(B) A public official, public member, or public employee may not receive travel, reimbursement for travel, or anything of value as defined in Section 8‑13‑100(1) from a party bidding on the contract if the public official, public member, or public employee is authorized to perform an official function relating to the contract as defined in subsection (A).”

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

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