**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 55‑11‑440 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE RICHLAND‑LEXINGTON AIRPORT COMMISSION MAY MAKE APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING FOREIGN‑TRADE ZONES IN CERTAIN COUNTIES, SELECT AND DESCRIBE THE LOCATION OF THE ZONES FOR WHICH APPLICATION MAY BE MADE, PROMULGATE CERTAIN REGULATIONS, OWN, ERECT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE BUILDINGS IN A FOREIGN‑TRADE ZONE, AND DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY AND PROPER TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOREIGN‑TRADE ZONES ACT.

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

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 11, Title 55 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 55‑11‑440. Notwithstanding another provision of law, the Richland‑Lexington Airport Commission may make application to the Foreign‑Trade Zones Board for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining foreign‑trade zones in Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties, under the act of Congress known as the Foreign‑Trade Zones Act which provides for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of foreign‑trade zones in the United States.

The commission shall select and describe the location of the zones for which application may be made and shall make such regulations concerning the operation, maintenance, and policing of them as may be necessary to insure compliance with the Foreign‑Trade Zones Act and for other appropriate purposes.

The commission has the authority to own, erect, maintain, and operate or lease any structures or buildings or enclosures as may be necessary or proper for establishing, operating, and maintaining such foreign‑trade zones within Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties.

The authority granted to the commission confers the right, duty, and power to do all things necessary and proper to achieve compliance with the Foreign‑Trade Zones Act and to carry into effect the establishing, operating, and maintaining of foreign‑trade zones within Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties.”

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

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