**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 11‑11‑250 SO AS TO CREATE THE “SOUTH CAROLINA OPIOID PREVENTION TRUST FUND” TO CREATE PILOT PROGRAMS WITH RURAL COMMUNITY‑BASED NONPROFITS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO COMBAT THE OPIOID CRISIS THROUGH COUNSELING SERVICES TO OPIOID ABUSERS.

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

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

“Section 11‑11‑250. There is created the ‘South Carolina Opioid Prevention Trust Fund’. This fund is separate and distinct from the general fund of the State and all other funds. Earnings on this fund must be credited to it and any balance in this fund at the end of a fiscal year carries forward in the fund in the succeeding fiscal year. Beginning with Fiscal Year 2020‑2021, each year the General Assembly shall appropriate funds to the South Carolina Opioid Prevention Trust Fund. The fund also may receive donations and grants from public and private sources. Revenues credited to this fund must be used only by the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) to create pilot programs with rural community‑based nonprofits to provide counseling services to combat the opioid crisis. DAODAS shall promulgate regulations specifying the manner in which a rural community‑based nonprofit becomes eligible for a grant and shall determine the manner in which money from the fund is distributed. DAODAS shall create an application process and shall review all applications received as expeditiously as possible but no more than sixty days after receipt.”

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

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