**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 44‑7‑170, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING IN PART TO EXEMPTIONS FROM THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROCESS, SO AS TO ADD AN EXEMPTION FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES ESTABLISHED AND OPERATING ON THE GROUNDS OF CERTAIN CLOSED RURAL HOSPITALS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44‑7‑170(A) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered item at the end to read:

“( ) a substance abuse treatment facility established and operating on the grounds of a rural hospital that closed before December 31, 2019. For purposes of this item, a ‘substance abuse treatment facility’ includes a ‘medical detoxification facility’, a ‘narcotic treatment program’, ‘a social detoxification facility’, a ‘residential treatment program facility’, or an ‘outpatient facility’, all as defined in Regulation 61‑93, S.C. Code of State Regulations, or an ‘inpatient treatment facility’ as defined in the State Health Plan.”

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

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