**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1348, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A CANDIDATE MAY USE CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY REASONABLE CHILDCARE EXPENSES THAT ARE THE DIRECT RESULT OF CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY AND THAT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN INCURRED BY THE CANDIDATE BUT FOR THE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY, AND THE USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY REASONABLE CHILDCARE EXPENSES THAT ARE THE DIRECT RESULT OF CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY AND THAT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN INCURRED BY THE CANDIDATE BUT FOR THE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO CONSTITUTE A PERSONAL EXPENSE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8‑13‑1348(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) No candidate, committee, public official, or political party may use campaign funds to defray personal expenses which are unrelated to the campaign or the office if the candidate is an officeholder nor may these funds be converted to personal use. The prohibition of this subsection does not extend to the incidental personal use of campaign materials or equipment nor to an expenditure used to defray any ordinary expenses incurred in connection with an individual’s duties as a holder of elective office. A candidate may use campaign funds to pay reasonable childcare expenses that are the direct result of campaign activity and that would not have been incurred by the candidate but for the campaign activity. The use of campaign funds to pay reasonable childcare expenses that are the direct result of campaign activity and that would not have been incurred by the candidate but for the campaign activity may not be construed to constitute a personal expense.”

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

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