**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 11‑35‑5350 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT WHEN CONSIDERING CERTAIN BIDS AND PROPOSALS AN AGENCY SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO A VENDOR WHO MEETS OR EXCEEDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 23, Chapter 35, Title 11 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 11‑35‑5350. When considering bids and proposals pursuant to this chapter, preference may be given to products which meet or exceed the following requirements:

(1) technology employed is approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and certified to meet or exceed the American National Standards for health effects of drinking water treatment chemicals (NSF/ANSI/CAN‑60) and be registered for application by the State;

(2) technology used proven to remediate and prevent harmful algal blooms in areas of size of at least one thousand acres in the United States;

(3) treatment aim must be to reduce cyanotoxins in the water to less‑than harmful levels;

(4) technology employed must be ready‑to‑use without limitation of size or shape of the waterbody;

(5) employment of technology allowing for application under emergency situations and within less than ninety‑six hours from approval;

(6) products used are modular and can be used as a preventative measure;

(7) products used are quick and easy to apply and are safe to the applicator;

(8) products used float on the surface of the water and do not sink immediately to the bottom of the water column, to be diminished in effectiveness by mixing with sediment;

(9) products used are distributed autonomously across the waterbody after a localized application;

(10) products used with a time‑release mechanism that applies constant and prolonged oxidative stress of the cyanobacteria triggered by the programmed cell death signaling cascade resulting in their collapse; and

(11) products manufactured in the United States.”

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

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