**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 48-23-10 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE STATE COMMISSION OF FORESTRY, TO PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR UPON THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE FROM THE PUBLIC AT LARGE MUST RESIDE IN A COUNTY WITH A FOREST IN EXCESS OF TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ACRES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 48-23-10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 48-23-10. (A) There is created and established a State Commission of Forestry to consist of nine members, each of whom shall be a resident of this State and shall be appointed by the Governor as follows:~~. Of this commission,~~

(1) two members shall be practical lumbermen~~,~~;

(2) one member shall be a farmer who is a landowner~~,~~;

(3) three members shall be selected and appointed from the public at large~~,~~;

(4) two members shall be appointed by the Governor upon the advice and consent of the Senate from the public at large who reside in a county with a forest in excess of twenty-eight thousand acres ~~upon the advice and consent of the Senate~~; and

(5) one member t~~he ninth member~~ shall be the President of Clemson University or the Dean of the School of Forestry to serve as his designee on the commission.

(B) The members of the commission shall be selected and appointed with reference to their knowledge of and interest in the forests of the State and the products derived therefrom. In making his appointments, the Governor shall make all reasonable effort to provide representation from every geographical section of the State and a reasonable balance between the interests of corporations and individuals.”

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

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