**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 9‑1‑110 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO BECOMES A MEMBER OF ANY STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT IS CONVICTED OF, PLEADS GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE TO A FELONY RELATED TO THE PERSON’S EMPLOYMENT, THEN THE PERSON FORFEITS ALL RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 1, Title 9 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 9‑1‑110. If a law enforcement officer who becomes a member of any retirement system administered pursuant to this title after the effective date of this act is convicted of, pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony, then the person forfeits all retirement benefits, provided that a court of competent jurisdiction declares the felony to be related to or arising out of, or in connection with his law enforcement service. If the person is a member of a defined benefit retirement plan, the applicable retirement system must refund the person any attributable employee contributions, and applicable interest. If the person is a participant in the Optional Retirement Program, the person forfeits all employer contributions. Each law enforcement officer who becomes a member of any retirement system administered pursuant to this title after the effective date of this act must sign an acknowledgement of the provisions of this section.”

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

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