**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 7‑1‑110 SO AS TO REQUIRE DIRECTORS OF LICENSED NURSING HOMES OR COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES TO ASSIST FACILITY RESIDENTS WHO DESIRE EITHER TO REGISTER TO VOTE AND MEET THE REGISTRATION CRITERIA CONTAINED IN SECTION 7‑5‑120 OR TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT AND ARE QUALIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 7‑15‑320 TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AND TO REQUIRE THE COUNTY BOARDS OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS TO PROVIDE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION FORMS TO THE DIRECTORS OF LICENSED NURSING HOMES OR COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES UPON REQUEST.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 7 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 7‑1‑110. (A) The directors of nursing homes or community residential care facilities that are licensed pursuant to Section 44‑7‑264 shall assist competent facility residents who desire to:

(1) register to vote and meet the registration criteria contained in Section 7‑5‑120; or

(2) vote by absentee ballot and are qualified to vote by absentee ballot pursuant to Section 7‑15‑320.

(B) The board of voter registration and elections in each county shall provide voter registration application forms to the directors of licensed nursing homes or community residential care facilities upon request.”

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

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