**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 6‑1‑320, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE LIMITATION ON MILLAGE RATE INCREASES, SO AS TO ALLOW THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY, BY A TWO‑THIRD VOTE, TO EXCEED THE LIMITATION TO CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION TO PREVENT SIGNIFICANTLY HARMING THE LEVEL OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 6‑1‑320(B) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an item before the last undesignated paragraph to read:

“(8) for a county that contracts with a municipality within the county to provide fire protection services to the unincorporated areas of the county so long as the millage rate increase is necessary to fulfill the obligation of the contract and to prevent causing significant harm to the level of fire protection services in the county.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor and first applies to millage set for Fiscal Year 2022‑2023.

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