**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 3823**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Pedalino, Davis, Erickson, B. Newton, West, Mitchell, Hager, Neese, Sessions, McCabe, B.J. Cox, G.M. Smith, W. Newton and Leber

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Introduced in the House on January 26, 2023

Currently residing in the House

Summary: Absentee ballots, witnesses

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/26/2023 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 7)

 1/26/2023 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** (House Journal‑page 7)

 2/1/2023 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: G.M. Smith

 4/6/2023 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: W. Newton

 6/7/2023 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Leber

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/26/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/3823_20230126.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 7‑15‑382 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON TO WITNESS THE SIGNATURE OF MORE THAN FIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICANTS ON THE OATH IMPRINTED ON ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN‑ADDRESSED ENVELOPES IN A SINGLE ELECTION, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 15, Title 7 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

 Section 7‑15‑382. (A) It is unlawful for a person to witness the signature of more than five absentee ballot applicants on the oath imprinted on absentee ballot return‑addressed envelopes in a single election.

 (B) A person who violates this section, upon conviction, must be punished as provided in Section 7‑25‑190.

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

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