**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**S. 866**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Shealy

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Introduced in the Senate on January 9, 2024

Introduced in the House on April 9, 2024

Last Amended on April 3, 2024

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: SVPA

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

11/30/2023 Senate Prefiled

11/30/2023 Senate Referred to Committee on **Medical Affairs**

1/9/2024 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 64](h:\sj\20240109.docx))

1/9/2024 Senate Referred to Committee on **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 64](h:\sj\20240109.docx))

2/21/2024 Senate Recalled from Committee on **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 3](h:\sj\20240221.docx))

2/21/2024 Senate Committed to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 3](h:\sj\20240221.docx))

3/19/2024 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Hutto (ch), Rice, Senn,
Adams, Tedder

3/27/2024 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 12](h:\sj\20240327.docx))

3/28/2024 Scrivener's error corrected

4/3/2024 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 46](h:\sj\20240403.docx))

4/3/2024 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 46](h:\sj\20240403.docx))

4/3/2024 Senate Roll call Ayes-44 Nays-0 ([Senate Journal‑page 46](h:\sj\20240403.docx))

4/4/2024 Scrivener's error corrected

4/4/2024 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 17](h:\sj\20240404.docx))

4/9/2024 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 19](h:\hj\20240409.docx))

4/9/2024 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 19](h:\hj\20240409.docx))

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[11/30/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/866_20231130.docx)

[03/27/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/866_20240327.docx)

[03/28/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/866_20240328.docx)

[04/03/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/866_20240403.docx)

[04/04/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/866_20240404.docx)

Indicates Matter Stricken

Indicates New Matter

Committee Amendment Adopted

04/04/24

S. 866

Introduced by Senator Shealy

S. Printed 04/04/24--S. [SEC 4/4/2024 12:40 PM]

Read the first time January 09, 2024

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A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 44‑48‑30, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE A REASONABLE EXPECTATION STANDARD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF WHETHER SOMEONE IS LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN ACTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 44‑48‑20, RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, SO AS TO CLARIFY THE METHOD OF DETERMINATION FOR THE LIKLIHOOD THAT A PERSON WILL ENGAGE IN FUTURE ACTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44‑48‑30(9) of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

(9) “Likely to engage in acts of sexual violence” means that a person is predisposedperson’s propensity to engage in commit acts of sexual violence and more probably than not will is of such a degree that it is reasonably expected that the person will engage in acts of sexual violence to such a degreeso as to pose a menace to the health and safety of others.

SECTION 2. Section 44‑48‑20 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

Section 44‑48‑20. The General Assembly finds that a mentally abnormal and extremely dangerous group of sexually violent predators exists who require involuntary civil commitment in a secure facility for long‑term control, care, and treatment. The General Assembly further finds that the likelihood these sexually violent predators will engage in repeated acts of sexual violence if not treated for their mental conditions is significant. Because the existing civil commitment process is inadequate to address the special needs of sexually violent predators and the risks that they present to society, the General Assembly has determined that a separate, involuntary civil commitment process for the long‑term control, care, and treatment of sexually violent predators is necessary. The General Assembly also determines that, because of the nature of the mental conditions from which sexually violent predators suffer and the dangers they present, it is necessary to house involuntarily committed sexually violent predators in secure facilities separate from persons involuntarily committed under traditional civil commitment statutes. The civil commitment of sexually violent predators is not intended to stigmatize the mentally ill community.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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