**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**S. 976**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Jackson

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Introduced in the Senate on January 12, 2022

Last Amended on March 17, 2022

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Consumer Affairs

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/12/2022 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj\20220112.docx))

1/12/2022 Senate Referred to Committee on **Banking and Insurance** ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj\20220112.docx))

3/15/2022 Senate Recalled from Committee on **Banking and Insurance** ([Senate Journal‑page 4](file:///h:\sj\20220315.docx))

3/17/2022 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 28](file:///h:\sj\20220317.docx))

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/12/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\976_20220112.docx)

[3/15/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\976_20220315.docx)

[3/17/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\976_20220317.docx)

AMENDED

March 17, 2022

**S. 976**

Introduced by Senator Jackson

S. Printed 3/17/22--S.

Read the first time January 12, 2022.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 37‑6‑513 SO AS TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO UTILIZE FUNDS AND FEES PAID TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS; AND BY ADDING SECTION 37‑6‑610 SO AS TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO CARRY FORWARD CERTAIN FUNDS.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Part 5, Chapter 6, Title 37 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 37‑6‑513. (A) Funds paid to the Department of Consumer Affairs to resolve cases involving violations of this title and other statutes enforced by the department may be retained and expended by the department to help offset the costs of investigating, prosecuting, and the administrative costs associated with these violations.

(B) The Department of Consumer Affairs may retain all filing fees collected under Chapters 2, 3, and 6 of this title. These fees must be used to offset the cost of administering and enforcing this title.

(C) The Department of Consumer Affairs may retain all fees collected pursuant to Sections 39‑61‑80, 39‑61‑120, 40‑39‑120, and 44‑79‑80.

(D) Unexpended funds resulting from funds paid to the Department of Consumer Affairs to resolve cases and from fees may be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next and used for the same purpose.”

SECTION 2. Part 6, Chapter 6, Title 37 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 37‑6‑610. Unexpended funds set aside for the Consumer Advocacy Expert Witness/Assistance Program established by Section 37‑6‑603 may be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next and used for the same purpose.”

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

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