**South Carolina General Assembly**

118th Session, 2009-2010

**A240, R307, S1030**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Hayes, Mulvaney, Coleman, Verdin, S. Martin, Bryant, O'Dell, Davis, Campsen and Pinckney

Document Path: l:\council\bills\nbd\20798sd10.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 3044

Introduced in the Senate on January 12, 2010

Introduced in the House on April 20, 2010

Last Amended on May 18, 2010

Passed by the General Assembly on June 1, 2010

Governor's Action: June 11, 2010, Signed

Summary: Marsh tacky

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/12/2010 Senate Introduced and read first time [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\01-12-10.docx)‑61

1/12/2010 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\01-12-10.docx)‑61

1/20/2010 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Campbell (ch), Knotts, Campsen, Lourie

4/14/2010 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\04-14-10.docx)‑60

4/15/2010 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\04-15-10.docx)‑18

4/15/2010 Senate Read second time [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\04-15-10.docx)‑18

4/20/2010 Senate Read third time and sent to House [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\04-20-10.docx)‑10

4/20/2010 House Introduced and read first time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\04-20-10.docx)‑46

4/20/2010 House Referred to Committee on **Invitations and Memorial Resolutions** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\04-20-10.docx)‑46

4/28/2010 House Committee report: Favorable **Invitations and Memorial Resolutions** [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\04-28-10.docx)‑9

4/29/2010 House Debate adjourned [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\04-29-10.docx)‑38

5/6/2010 House Debate interrupted [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-06-10.docx)‑28

5/6/2010 House Debate adjourned [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-06-10.docx)‑48

5/11/2010 House Amended [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-11-10.docx)‑16

5/11/2010 House Read second time [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-11-10.docx)‑16

5/12/2010 House Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-12-10.docx)‑20

5/18/2010 Senate House amendment amended [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-18-10.docx)‑24

5/18/2010 Senate Returned to House with amendments [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2010\05-18-10.docx)‑24

5/19/2010 Scrivener's error corrected

5/25/2010 House Debate adjourned until Tuesday, June 1, 2010 [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\05-25-10.docx)‑110

6/1/2010 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\06-01-10.docx)‑79

6/1/2010 House Roll call Yeas‑62 Nays‑31 [HJ](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2010\06-01-10.docx)‑79

6/7/2010 Ratified R 307

6/11/2010 Signed By Governor

6/28/2010 Effective date 06/11/10

7/6/2010 Act No. 240

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/12/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100112.docx)

[4/14/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100414.docx)

[4/15/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100415.docx)

[4/28/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100428.docx)

[5/11/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100511.docx)

[5/18/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100518.docx)

[5/19/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\1030_20100519.docx)

(A240, R307, S1030)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 1‑1‑714 SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE MARSH TACKY AS THE OFFICIAL STATE HERITAGE HORSE OF SOUTH CAROLINA; AND BY ADDING SECTION 1-1-714A SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE MULE AS THE OFFICIAL STATE HERITAGE WORK ANIMAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA.**

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

**Findings**

SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds:

(1) The Marsh Tacky, a rare colonial Spanish horse breed unique to South Carolina, has played a significant role in South Carolina’s history. After abandonment by the Spanish on the South Carolina Sea Islands and along the South Carolina coast some five hundred years ago, the Marsh Tacky survived on its own and developed into a unique strain of colonial Spanish horse. These tough, little horses assisted our forefathers in the development and defense of our State and were the major source of transportation in the Lowcountry before the introduction of the automobile. Marsh Tackies were important to the Gullah community and became an integral part of agricultural life for Lowcountry families. Marsh Tackies were used wherever horsepower was needed; to pull plows and wagons, herd cattle, hunt wild game, deliver the mail, transport families, and as loyal, sturdy war mounts. Most Lowcountry families had Marsh Tackies in their fields or gardens.

(2) During the American Revolution, Marsh Tackies assisted in the victories of the famous “Swamp Fox” General Francis Marion, whose troops of “Irregulars” had the advantage of being mounted on small, agile horses that were superbly adapted to the Lowcountry’s rough, swampy terrain. Marsh Tackies required little care from the troops, were able to travel long distances without fatigue, and survived on forage, reducing the need for supply wagons carrying grain. The sure‑footed Marsh Tacky enabled the militia to out maneuver the British troops who rode larger European horse breeds that could not traverse the swampy forests.

(3) Marsh Tackies served the southern Confederate cavalry during the Civil War. Unlike northern troops who were issued horses, southern recruits were often required to provide their own mounts, which were trained and familiar with their riders, giving an early advantage to the southern forces.

(4) In World War II, Marsh Tackies were used by the Coast Guard’s Mounted Beach Patrol to protect our mainland from enemy spies and saboteurs. The “Beach Pounders” who patrolled the southeastern shore were trained at the Mounted Beach Patrol and Dog Training Center in Hilton Head, South Carolina, and patrolled the coast from Florida to North Carolina.

(5) Marsh Tackies have little changed since the colonial period. Relative isolation on the Sea Islands and secluded areas of the Lowcountry, along with owner dedication to the preservation of the breed, has allowed the Marsh Tacky to remain relatively untouched. Owners often comment on the built‑in “woods sense” of the breed and how the horses have a natural way of traversing water obstacles and swamps. Many horses display characteristics and primitive markings carried by their Spanish ancestors including dorsal stripes, zebra leg stripes, and lengthy manes and tails.

(6) In 2007, Marsh Tacky owners and enthusiasts across the State formed the Carolina Marsh Tacky Association to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the Marsh Tacky horse. The association works closely with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy to provide ongoing registry, stud book, and breeding program to ensure the survival of the Marsh Tacky.

(7) With its rich heritage, resilience, and perseverance, the Marsh Tacky embodies the very spirit of South Carolina. The Marsh Tacky is uniquely of South Carolina and remains a living piece of history in its native State, a claim that no other breed can make. The Marsh Tacky has earned the title of State Heritage Horse of South Carolina.

**State Heritage Horse**

SECTION 2. Chapter 1, Title 1 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 1‑1‑714. The Marsh Tacky is designated as the official State Heritage Horse of South Carolina.”

**State Heritage Work Animal**

SECTION 3. Chapter 1, Title 1 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 1‑1‑714A. The mule is hereby designated as the official State Heritage Work Animal of South Carolina.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 7th day of June, 2010.

Approved the 11th day of June, 2010.

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