**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 30‑5‑10, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS’ DUTIES BY THE CLERK OF COURT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE LANCASTER COUNTY HAS A SEPARATE CLERK OF COURT AND REGISTER OF DEEDS; TO AMEND SECTION 30‑5‑12, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE GOVERNING BODY OF LANCASTER COUNTY SHALL APPOINT THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR LANCASTER COUNTY; AND TO REPEAL ACT 454 OF 2000 RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF THE DUTIES OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS IN LANCASTER COUNTY TO THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR OF LANCASTER COUNTY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 30‑5‑10 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 221 of 2008, is further amended to read:

“Section 30‑5‑10. (A) In every county in the State other than Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Greenville, Horry, Jasper, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, and Sumter the duties prescribed by law for the register of deeds must be performed by the clerk of court who has all the powers and emoluments given the register of deeds in Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Greenville, Horry, Jasper, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, and Sumter counties. (B) The registers of deeds in Berkeley and Dorchester counties are elected for terms of four years and until a successor is elected in the general election and qualifies.”

SECTION 2. Section 30‑5‑12 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 221 of 2008, is further amended to read:

“Section 30‑5‑12. (A) The governing bodies of Anderson, Beaufort, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper, Kershaw, Lancaster, Oconee, Orangeburg, and Pickens counties shall appoint the register of deeds for its county under terms and conditions as it may agree upon.

(B) The governing body of Georgetown County may appoint a register of deeds only after advertising the information concerning the appointment for two weeks before action is taken in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.”

SECTION 3. Act 454 of 2000 is repealed.

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

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