**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑3‑315(A) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS NATURAL RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, TO PROVIDE THAT ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS NATURAL RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT DIVISION ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN THE BONDS REQUIRED BY SECTION 50‑3‑330; AND TO AMEND SECTION 50‑3‑330 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS NATURAL RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OATH AND BONDS, TO PROVIDE THAT OFFICERS SHALL BE COVERED BY A SURETY BOND OF NOT LESS THAN TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MUST PAY THE PREMIUMS ON THE SURETY BONDS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑3‑315(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑3‑315(A). The director may appoint deputy enforcement officers who serve at the pleasure of the director without pay. The officers have statewide police power. However, the director may restrict their territorial jurisdiction. No person may be appointed as an officer who holds another public office. The Secretary of State shall transmit to the director the commissions of all officers. ~~The officers, except for designated department employees, shall obtain the bonds required by Section 50‑3‑330.~~”

SECTION 2. Section 50‑3‑330 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑3‑330. Every enforcement officer appointed to protect the property of the State shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe before a notary public, or other officer authorized to administer an oath, an oath to perform the duties of his office. Every officer shall be covered by a surety bond with the department of not less than two thousand dollars, subscribed by a licensed, reliable surety company, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties. The bond may be individual, schedule, or blanket, and on a form approved by the Attorney General. The premiums on the bonds must be paid by the department. ~~and shall execute a bond with some reliable surety company approved by the board in the sum of one thousand dollars for the faithful discharge of his duties. Such bond and oath shall be transmitted to the board, which shall properly record them and keep them on file in the office of the board.~~”

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

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