**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 546 OF 1982, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF GREENWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 50, SCHOOL DISTRICT 51 COMPOSED OF AREAS OF ABBEVILLE, GREENWOOD, AND LAURENS COUNTIES, AND NINETY SIX SCHOOL DISTRICT 52 IN GREENWOOD COUNTY, SO AS TO REVISE THE FILING PERIOD FOR STATEMENTS OF INTENTION OF CANDIDACY FOR DISTRICTS 51 AND 52 AND TO CORRECT OUTDATED REFERENCES TO THE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1(5) of Act 546 of 1982, as last amended by Act 145 of 2001, is further amended to read:

“(5)(a) The Greenwood County ~~Election Commission~~ Board of Voter Registration and Elections shall conduct and supervise these elections in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. Members of each board must be qualified electors and residents of their district and must be elected from the district at large by the qualified electors of the district. ~~The county election commission shall establish the opening and ending date for the filing of notice of candidacy for election to each board.~~ The filing period for School Districts 51 and 52 shall open at 12:00 p.m. on the third Monday in February and run for a period of two weeks closing at 12:00 p.m. on the first Monday in March. If the third Monday in February or the first Monday in March falls on a legal holiday, the statement of intention of candidacy must be filed by 12:00 p.m. of the next business day. All persons desiring to qualify as a candidate shall file a statement of candidacy with the county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections within the time stipulated by ~~the county election commission~~ this act. This statement of candidacy must include ~~such~~ the information ~~as~~ the county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections requires.

(b) The county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections shall give at least thirty days’ notice of an election by publishing a notice of it in a newspaper of general circulation in the district at least once a week for two consecutive weeks. ~~all of which~~ All of these notices must be run at least thirty days before the scheduled election. The notices shall include, but not be limited to, the date and time of the election, the polling places of the election, and the place where candidates may file for election. The ~~notice~~ notices, in the discretion of the county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections, ~~may~~ also may be provided to other local news media. The county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the supervision of the counting of ballots and declaring the results of the election. The cost of an election for trustees from a particular district must be paid by that district and the cost must be determined by the county ~~election commission~~ board of voter registration and elections based in part on the number of precincts in each district. Poll managers must be paid the same as in general elections.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑