**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**H. 4778**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. W. Cox, West, Collins, Carter, Gagnon, Parks, Sandifer, White, Thayer, Hyde, Whitmire and Hill

Document Path: l:\council\bills\rt\17069ph22.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 1010

Introduced in the House on January 12, 2022

Introduced in the Senate on February 23, 2022

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Summary: Water Supply

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/12/2022 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h:\hj\20220112.docx))

1/12/2022 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h:\hj\20220112.docx))

1/13/2022 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Thayer, Hyde, Whitmire

1/25/2022 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hill

2/17/2022 House Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 56](file:///h:\hj\20220217.docx))

2/22/2022 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 24](file:///h:\hj\20220222.docx))

2/22/2022 House Roll call Yeas‑109 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 24](file:///h:\hj\20220222.docx))

2/23/2022 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\hj\20220223.docx))

2/23/2022 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 4](file:///h:\sj\20220223.docx))

2/23/2022 Senate Referred to Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources** ([Senate Journal‑page 4](file:///h:\sj\20220223.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4778&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/12/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\4778_20220112.docx)

[2/17/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\4778_20220217.docx)

COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2022

**H. 4778**

Introduced by Reps. W. Cox, West, Collins, Carter, Gagnon, Parks, Sandifer, White, Thayer, Hyde, Whitmire and Hill

S. Printed 2/17/22--H.

Read the first time January 12, 2022.

**THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NATURAL**

**RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 4778) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 49‑3‑60 so as to provide that an entity that has contracted for the right, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

DAVID R. HIOTT for Committee.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 49‑3‑60 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN ENTITY THAT HAS CONTRACTED FOR THE RIGHT TO STORE WATER IN A RESERVOIR OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS HAS EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO ANY RETURN FLOWS GENERATED TO THAT RESERVOIR.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 49 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 49‑3‑60. (A) Notwithstanding another provision of law, an entity that has contracted for the right to store water in a reservoir owned by the United State Army Corps of Engineers has exclusive rights to any return flows generated directly or indirectly to that reservoir by the entity. The rights conferred by this subsection must be subject to any regulatory requirements imposed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and to the availability to the entity of unused storage capacity within the reservoir to store such return flows.

(B) For purposes of this section, ‘return flow’ means water that is discharged directly or indirectly to a reservoir from a water reclamation facility.”

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

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