**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 44-43-400 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE JURISDICTION OF A CORONER OVER A BODY THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF AN ANATOMICAL GIFT, TO CLARIFY THAT THE CORONER MUST COOPERATE EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH A PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION TO MAXIMIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECOVER ANATOMICAL GIFTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSPLANTATION, THERAPY, RESEARCH, OR EDUCATION, EVEN WHEN PERFORMING AN INVESTIGATION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44-43-400 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 44-43-400. (A) A coroner ~~shall~~ must cooperate expeditiously with procurement organizations to maximize the opportunity to recover anatomical gifts for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

(B) A part may not be removed from the body of a decedent under the jurisdiction of a coroner for transplantation, therapy, research, or education unless the part is the subject of an anatomical gift. The body of a decedent under the jurisdiction of the coroner may not be delivered to a person for research or education unless the body is the subject of an anatomical gift. This subsection does not preclude a coroner from performing the medicolegal investigation upon the body or parts of a decedent under the jurisdiction of the coroner, provided that the investigation is conducted in a thorough, but expeditious, manner to maximize the opportunity to recover anatomical gifts for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education.”

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

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