**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**R6, H3792**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Pedalino

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Introduced in the House on January 28, 2025

Introduced in the Senate on January 30, 2025

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Clarendon County School District

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/28/2025 House Introduced, read first time, placed on calendar without reference (House Journal‑page 21)

 1/29/2025 House Read second time (House Journal‑page 21)

 1/29/2025 House Roll call Yeas-98 Nays-0 (House Journal‑page 21)

 1/30/2025 House Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal‑page 53)

 1/30/2025 Senate Introduced, read first time, placed on local & uncontested calendar (Senate Journal‑page 5)

 2/4/2025 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal‑page 7)

 2/5/2025 Senate Read third time and enrolled (Senate Journal‑page 50)

 3/6/2025 Ratified R 6

 3/7/2025 Signed By Governor

 3/12/2025 Effective date 03/07/25

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/28/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3792_20250128.docx)

[01/28/2025-A](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3792_20250128a.docx)

[01/30/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3792_20250130.docx)

**NOTE: THIS IS A TEMPORARY VERSION. THIS DOCUMENT WILL REMAIN IN THIS VERSION UNTIL FINAL APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

(R6, H3792)

AN ACT TO AMEND ACT 106 OF 2021, RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN CLARENDON COUNTY INTO THE CLARENDON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, SO AS TO CHANGE THE METHOD OF DETERMINING THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND TO REQUIRE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO ANNUALLY SUBMIT ITS PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

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

Trustee elections

SECTION 1. Section 2(C) of Act 106 of 2021 is amended to read:

 (C) All persons desiring to qualify as a candidate for the Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees shall file written notice of candidacy with the Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration and Elections on forms furnished by the board. The filing period shall open at 12:00 p.m. on August first or, if August first falls on Saturday or Sunday, then 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday and shall run until 12:00 p.m. on August fifteenth or, if August fifteenth falls on Saturday or Sunday, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday. This notice of candidacy must be a sworn statement and shall include the candidate’s name, age, election district in which he resides and from which he seeks election, voting precinct, period of residence in the county and election district, and other information that the board requires. The Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration and Elections shall conduct and supervise the elections for members of the Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The board shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The commission shall publish notices of the elections pursuant to Section 7‑13‑35. The results of the elections must be determined by the nonpartisan election and runoff method contained in Section 5‑15‑62. The members of the consolidated school district elected in these nonpartisan elections shall take office one week following the certification of their election pursuant to Section 59‑19‑315.

School district superintendent

SECTION 2. Section 3(A) of Act 106 of 2021 is amended to read:

 (A) The members of the Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees shall elect a chairman and other officers they consider necessary for terms that are coterminous with their appointed or elected terms of office.

 (B) The Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees has the power, duty, and responsibility provided by law, including to:

 (1) employ a superintendent as the chief executive officer;

 (2) establish other administrative departments upon the recommendation of the superintendent;

 (3) adopt the annual school district budget subject to approval by the Clarendon County Council;

 (4) inquire into the conduct of an office, department, or agency of the school district;

 (5) adopt and modify the attendance zones of schools within the school district;

 (6) provide for an independent annual audit of the books and business affairs of the school district and for a general survey of school district business;

 (7) cooperate to establish and maintain a central purchasing system for the purchase of contractual services, equipment, and supplies;

 (8) cooperate to establish and maintain educational consortia;

 (9) be responsible for policymaking actions and the review of regulations established to put these policies into operation; and

 (10) set by majority vote of the board a salary that each member shall receive for attending meetings of the board, which may not exceed four hundred fifty dollars per month.

Annual budget

SECTION 3. Section 5 of Act 105 of 2021 is amended is read:

Beginning with Fiscal Year 2025-2026, the Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees shall annually, on or before the thirty-first of May, submit to the Clarendon County Council its proposed budget for the ensuing school year, which shall be subject to approval by the county council. Each proposed budget shall be in line-item form so as to reflect the purpose of all expenditures from any source of funds which will be required within each office or department of the district. The budget must specifically include, without limitation, an itemized list of salaries paid to all administrators and heads of departments or offices within the school district. Each line item in the budget must be reconciled at the end of the fiscal year, and a detailed accounting of budgetary funds used on each item, as well any resulting surpluses or deficits, must be included in the district superintendent’s annual report on the finances and administrative activities of the board.

Time effective

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

Ratified the 6th day of March, 2025.

Approved the 7th day of March, 2025. -- L.

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