**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**H. 4680**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Bannister

Document Path: l:\council\bills\ms\7671ahb12.docx

Introduced in the House on January 25, 2012

Introduced in the Senate on March 21, 2012

Last Amended on March 20, 2012

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Reduction of sentences

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/25/2012 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-25-12.docx))

1/25/2012 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-25-12.docx))

3/7/2012 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-07-12.docx))

3/20/2012 House Amended

3/20/2012 House Read second time

3/20/2012 House Roll call Yeas‑107 Nays‑1

3/21/2012 Scrivener's error corrected

3/21/2012 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-21-12.docx))

3/21/2012 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-21-12.docx))

3/21/2012 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-21-12.docx))

3/27/2012 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Hutto (ch), Rose, Shoopman

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/25/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4680_20120125.docx)

[3/7/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4680_20120307.docx)

[3/20/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4680_20120320.docx)

[3/21/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4680_20120321.docx)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

March 20, 2012

**H. 4680**

Introduced by Rep. Bannister

S. Printed 3/20/12--H. [SEC 3/21/12 11:45 AM]

Read the first time January 25, 2012.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 17‑25‑65, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO REDUCTION OF A SENTENCE WHEN A DEFENDANT PROVIDES SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE IN INVESTIGATING OR PROSECUTING ANOTHER PERSON, SO AS TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED AFTER SENTENCING AND CLARIFY THAT A DEFENDANT’S SENTENCE MAY BE REDUCED BELOW THE MINIMUM TERM OF IMPRISONMENT PROVIDED BY LAW UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 17‑25‑65 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 273 of 2010, is amended to read:

“Section 17-25-65. (A) Upon the state’s motion made within one year of sentencing, the court may reduce a sentence including, in its discretion, reducing a sentence below the minimum term of imprisonment provided by law if the defendant~~, after sentencing,~~ provided:

(1) substantial assistance in investigating or prosecuting another person; or

(2) aid to a Department of Corrections employee or volunteer who was in danger of being seriously injured or killed.

(B) Upon the state’s motion made more than one year after sentencing, the court, in its discretion, may reduce a sentence as provided in subsection (A) if the defendant’s substantial assistance involved:

(1) information not known to the defendant until one year or more after sentencing;

(2) information provided by the defendant to the State within one year of sentencing, but which did not become useful to the State until more than one year after sentencing;

(3) information, the usefulness of which could not reasonably have been anticipated by the defendant until more than one year after sentencing, and which was promptly provided to the State after its usefulness was reasonably apparent to the defendant; or

(4) aid to a Department of Corrections employee or volunteer who was in danger of being seriously injured or killed.

(C) A motion made pursuant to this provision ~~shall~~ must be filed by ~~that~~ the Attorney General or the circuit solicitor in the county where the defendant’s case arose. The State shall send a copy to the chief judge of the circuit within five days of filing. The chief judge or a circuit court judge currently assigned to that county ~~shall have~~ has jurisdiction to hear and resolve the motion. Jurisdiction to resolve the motion is not limited to the original sentencing judge.

(D) The State shall provide notice of the filing of a motion and any other related proceedings pursuant to the provisions of this section to the victim of the original offense.”

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

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