**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTIONS 57‑5‑10, 57‑5‑70, AND 57-5-80, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, ADDITIONS TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SECONDARY SYSTEM, AND THE DELETION AND REMOVAL OF ROADS FROM THE STATE HIGHWAY SECONDARY SYSTEM, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT ALL HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS, TO PROVIDE THE FUNDING SOURCES THAT THE DEPARTMENT USES TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN THESE HIGHWAYS, TO REVISE THE PROCEDURE AND WHEREBY ENTITIES TO WHICH THE DEPARTMENT MAY TRANSFER ROADS WITHIN THE STATE HIGHWAY SECONDARY SYSTEM; AND TO REVISE THE PROCEDURE WHEREBY THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADD A ROAD FROM THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL ROAD TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 57‑5‑90 RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF BELT LINES AND SPURS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 57‑5‑10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 57‑5‑10. The state highway system shall consist of a statewide system of connecting highways ~~which~~ that shall be constructed ~~by~~ to the Department of ~~Transportation~~ Transportation’s standards and ~~which~~ that shall be maintained by the department in a safe and serviceable condition as state highways. The department may utilize funding sources including, but not limited to, the State Nonfederal Aid Highway Fund and the State Highway Fund as established by Section 57‑11‑20 in carrying out the provisions of this section. The complete state highway system shall mean the system of state highways as now constituted, consisting of the roads, streets, and highways ~~heretofore~~ designated as state highways or designated for construction or maintenance by the department pursuant to law, together with the roads, streets, and highways ~~heretofore~~ added to the state highway system by the Commission of the Department of Transportation, and ~~such~~ the roads, streets, and highways ~~as~~ that may ~~hereafter~~ be added to the system pursuant to law. Roads and highways in the state highway system are classified into three classifications:

(1) interstate system of highways;

(2) state highway primary system; and

(3) state highway secondary system.”

SECTION 2. Section 57‑5‑70 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 57‑5‑70. ~~The department shall take over and accept as a part of the state highway secondary system the roads remaining in the various county road systems which have been maintained by the respective counties, or so much mileage thereof as the availability of funds for construction of secondary state highways in a county may justify; provided, that municipal streets which are extensions of state highways may be added to the state highway secondary system in lieu of an equal mileage of county roads. The roads to be placed in the state highway system hereunder shall be selected by the department. Maintenance jurisdiction by the department of roads added to the state highway secondary system pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not commence until construction to state highway standards shall have started.~~ A county or municipality and the department may by mutual consent agree to transfer a road from the county or municipal road system to the state highway system. The transfer may be of the road ‘as is’, without further improvement to the road or upon such terms and conditions as the parties mutually agree. Notification of the transfer must be given to the county’s legislative delegation. If the department determines that a road in the county or municipal road system is necessary for the interconnectivity of the state highway system, and the municipality or county does not consent to the transfer, the department may initiate a condemnation action to acquire the road, or a portion of it, and the county or municipality is not required to make any further improvements to it.”

SECTION 3. Section 57‑5‑80 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 57‑5‑80. ~~The department may delete and remove from the state highway secondary system of roads in any county any roads which are of low traffic importance and substitute therefor an equal, or less, mileage of other roads of higher traffic importance as determined by traffic surveys and estimates. Maintenance responsibility for roads deleted and removed from the state highway secondary system pursuant to the provisions of this section shall transfer from the jurisdiction of the department to the jurisdiction of the county or municipality in which such roads are situated, effective upon notice from the department of official action deleting and removing the roads from the state highway system.~~ The department may transfer from the state highway secondary system any road under its jurisdiction, determined by the department to be of low traffic importance, to one of the parties indicated in this section if mutual consent is reached between the department and the party that the road is being transferred to:

(a) a county or municipality;

(b) a school;

(c) a governmental agency;

(d) a nongovernmental entity; or

(e) a person.

In all cases, the county or municipality shall have right of first refusal to accept roads into their maintenance responsibility when roads are considered for transfer from the state highway system to a nongovernmental entity or person and in no case may a state road be transferred to a nongovernmental entity unless all persons and businesses located on that road are in agreement with the transfer. Maintenance responsibility for roads transferred from the state highway system pursuant to the provisions of this section shall transfer from the jurisdiction of the department to the jurisdiction of the county or municipality, school, governmental agency, nongovernmental entity, or person, effective upon notice from the department of official action removing the road from the state highway system. Notification of the transfer must be given to the county’s legislative delegation.”

SECTION 4. Section 57‑5‑90 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 5. The repeal or amendment by this act of any law, whether temporary or permanent or civil or criminal, does not affect pending actions, rights, duties, or liabilities founded thereon, or alter, discharge, release or extinguish any penalty, forfeiture, or liability incurred under the repealed or amended law, unless the repealed or amended provision shall so expressly provide. After the effective date of this act, all laws repealed or amended by this act must be taken and treated as remaining in full force and effect for the purpose of sustaining any pending or vested right, civil action, special proceeding, criminal prosecution, or appeal existing as of the effective date of this act, and for the enforcement of rights, duties, penalties, forfeitures, and liabilities as they stood under the repealed or amended laws.

SECTION 6. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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