COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED

April 3, 2014

**H. 4259**

Introduced by Reps. Goldfinch and Clemmons

S. Printed 4/3/14--S.

Read the first time January 21, 2014.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 16‑17‑760 SO AS TO ENACT THE “SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY SERVICE INTEGRITY AND PRESERVATION ACT”, TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO, WITH THE INTENT OF SECURING A TANGIBLE BENEFIT, KNOWINGLY AND FALSELY REPRESENTS HIMSELF TO HAVE SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR TO HAVE BEEN AWARDED A DECORATION, MEDAL, RIBBON, OR OTHER DEVICE AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS OR PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAW FOR THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Article 7, Chapter 17, Title 16 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 16‑17‑760. (A) This section may be cited as the ‘South Carolina Military Service Integrity and Preservation Act’.

(B) A person who, with the intent of securing a tangible benefit, knowingly and falsely represents himself through a written or oral communication, including a resume, to have:

(1) served in the Armed Forces of the United States, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days, or both; or

(2) been awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor, a Distinguished-Service Cross, a Navy Cross, an Air Force Cross, a Silver Star, a Purple Heart, a Combat Infantryman’s Badge, a Combat Action Badge, a Combat Medical Badge, a Combat Action Ribbon, or a Combat Action Medal as authorized by Congress or pursuant to federal law for the Armed Forces of the United States, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

(C) For purposes of this section, ‘tangible benefit’ includes:

(1) a benefit relating to military service provided by the federal government or a state or local government;

(2) employment or personal advancement;

(3) financial remuneration; or

(4) an effect on the outcome of a criminal or civil court proceeding.

(5) an effect on an election which is presumed if the representation is made by a candidate for public office.”

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

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