**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ACT 485 OF 1998, RELATING TO THE ELECTION PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE NEWBERRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, SO AS TO AMEND THE FILING PERIOD DATES AND THE DATES THAT THE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION SHALL EXAMINE PETITIONS AND VERIFY SIGNATURES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1(C) of Act 485 of 1998 is amended to read:

“(C) Each member of the board must be elected by the qualified electors of the single‑member district from which he seeks election. All persons desiring to qualify as a candidate shall file a petition with the county election commission on forms furnished by the commission and shall pay a filing fee of one hundred dollars to be retained by the county election commission. This petition must be a sworn statement stating 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 as the county election commission requires. The petition must bear the signatures of not less than two percent of the qualified electors of the election district for which he offers as a candidate. ~~The county election commission shall examine the petition and verify the signatures not less than thirty days before the election. The filing period opens on the first day of August at noon to run no later than September first at noon; however, if September first falls on a Sunday, not later than twelve o’clock noon on the following Monday.~~ The filing period opens at twelve o’clock noon on July first and closes at twelve o’clock noon on July fifteenth or, if July fifteenth falls on Saturday or Sunday, not later than twelve o’clock noon on the following Monday. The county election commission shall examine the petition bearing signatures and verify the signatures not later than twelve o’clock noon on August fifteenth or, if August fifteenth falls on Saturday or Sunday, not later than twelve o’clock noon on the following Monday.”

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

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