**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**S. 988**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Coleman

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Introduced in the Senate on January 13, 2016

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

Summary: Public Utilities

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/13/2016 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 55](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2016\01-13-16.docx))

1/13/2016 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 55](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2016\01-13-16.docx))

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/13/2016](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\988_20160113.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 58‑1‑70 SO AS TO PROHIBIT A PUBLIC UTILITY THAT HOLDS AN EASEMENT OR RIGHT OF WAY FROM DENYING, REFUSING, OR REJECTING ANOTHER PUBLIC UTILITY’S REASONABLE REQUEST TO USE THE PREEXISTING EASEMENT OR RIGHT OF WAY IN ORDER TO COLLOCATE, CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN, OR OPERATE INFRASTRUCTURE OR FACILITIES FOR A NECESSARY PUBLIC PURPOSE.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 58 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 58‑1‑70. To the extent practicable and notwithstanding another provision of law, a public utility created or governed pursuant to the provisions of this title that holds an easement or right of way, regardless of the manner of acquisition, may not deny, refuse, or reject another public utility’s reasonable request to use the preexisting easement or right of way in order to collocate, construct, install, maintain, or operate infrastructure or facilities for a necessary public purpose.”

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

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