**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 4‑9‑30, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO POWERS OF A COUNTY GOVERNMENT, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY TO ADOPT BY ORDINANCE THE REQUIREMENT THAT A RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNER SHALL KEEP A LOT OR OTHER PROPERTY CLEAN AND FREE OF RUBBISH, TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE, AND TO PROVIDE EXEMPTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 4‑9‑30 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 113 of 1999, is further amended by adding at the end:

“(18)(a) to provide by ordinance that the owner of a lot or property in the county, whether residential or commercial, shall keep that lot or property clean and free of rubbish, debris, and other unhealthy and unsightly material, or conditions that constitute a public nuisance; however, farmland, land used for the production of food, fiber, or other agricultural products, and archaeological resources to include artifacts, relics, burial objects, or material remains of past human life or activities are specifically excluded from an ordinance enacted pursuant to this item; and

(b) to provide by ordinance for notification to the owner of conditions needing correction, require that the owner take action as necessary to correct the conditions, provide the terms and conditions under which an employee of the county or a person employed for that purpose may go on the property to correct the conditions, and provide that not more than the actual cost of these corrections becomes a lien upon the real estate and is collectable as a county tax.”

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

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