**South Carolina General Assembly**

123rd Session, 2019-2020

**A35, R48, S310**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Alexander

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Introduced in the Senate on January 8, 2019

Introduced in the House on February 19, 2019

Passed by the General Assembly on May 9, 2019

Governor's Action: May 13, 2019, Signed

Summary: Cigarettes

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/8/2019 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 178](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190108.docx))

 1/8/2019 Senate Referred to Committee on **Finance** ([Senate Journal‑page 178](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190108.docx))

 2/5/2019 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Finance** ([Senate Journal‑page 13](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190205.docx))

 2/13/2019 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190213.docx))

 2/13/2019 Senate Roll call Ayes‑41 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190213.docx))

 2/14/2019 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20190214.docx))

 2/19/2019 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 44](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190219.docx))

 2/19/2019 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 44](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190219.docx))

 5/2/2019 House Committee report: Favorable **Ways and Means** ([House Journal‑page 10](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190502.docx))

 5/8/2019 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 146](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190508.docx))

 5/8/2019 House Roll call Yeas‑91 Nays‑7 ([House Journal‑page 146](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190508.docx))

 5/9/2019 House Read third time and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 17](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20190509.docx))

 5/9/2019 Ratified R 48

 5/13/2019 Signed By Governor

 5/17/2019 Effective date 05/13/19

 5/21/2019 Act No.  35

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=310&session=123&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/8/2019](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2019-20%5C310_20190108.docx)

[2/5/2019](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2019-20%5C310_20190205.docx)

[5/2/2019](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2019-20%5C310_20190502.docx)

(A35, R48, S310)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 12‑21‑2870, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO UNSTAMPED OR UNTAXED CIGARETTES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CIGARETTES FOUND AT ANY POINT THAT DO NOT HAVE STAMPS AFFIXED TO THEIR PACKAGE ARE CONSIDERED CONTRABAND IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

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

**Cigarette stamps**

SECTION 1. Section 12‑21‑2870 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

 “Section 12‑21‑2870. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, cigarettes found at any point within the State that do not have the stamps required pursuant to this chapter affixed to their package are contraband goods if the goods are in the possession of a person:

 (1) offering the cigarettes for sale or distribution and that person was not the first to receive the untaxed cigarettes in this State;

 (2) importing, receiving, or acquiring cigarettes for use or consumption within the State; or

 (3) offering the cigarettes for sale at retail within this State.

 (B) Cigarettes declared to be contraband goods under this section may be seized by the department, its employees, or any law enforcement agency of the State without a warrant. The seized cigarettes must be delivered to the department.”

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 9th day of May, 2019.

Approved the 13th day of May, 2019.

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