

Session 120 - (2013-2014)

H 3163 General Bill, By Taylor, G.R. Smith, Long and Daning

Summary: Freedom of Information Act

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 30-4-30, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO FEES AND THE TIME IN WHICH A PUBLIC BODY MUST RESPOND TO A REQUEST MADE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF PUBLIC RECORDS UNDER THE ACT, TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC BODY MAY NOT CHARGE FOR STAFF TIME BUT MAY CHARGE THE PREVAILING COMMERCIAL RATE FOR COPY COSTS WHEN RESPONDING TO A REQUEST, TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC BODY MAY NOT ASSESS A COPY CHARGE WHEN PROVIDING A RECORD STORED OR TRANSMITTED IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT, TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC BODY MAY REQUIRE A DEPOSIT BEFORE FULFILLING A REQUEST, TO REVISE THE TIME LIMITS FOR RESPONDING TO A REQUEST, TO PROVIDE THAT DURING THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF A PUBLIC BODY IT MUST MAKE AVAILABLE WITHOUT WRITTEN REQUEST ALL DOCUMENTS RECEIVED OR REVIEWED BY A MEMBER OF THE BODY IN A PUBLIC MEETING DURING THE PRECEDING SIX MONTHS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PUBLIC BODY MAY SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT BY MAKING THE RECORDS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET; TO AMEND SECTION 30-4-100, RELATING TO EQUITABLE REMEDIES AVAILABLE UNDER THE ACT, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR SPECIFIC ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL CONTEMPT REMEDIES WHEN A PUBLIC BODY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE TIME LIMITS FOR RESPONDING TO A REQUEST; AND TO AMEND SECTION 30-4-110, RELATING TO FINES AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR A VIOLATION OF THE ACT, SO AS TO INCREASE THE FINES AND PROVIDE AN OFFICER OR PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO WILFULLY VIOLATES THE ACT MAY BE PUNISHED PURSUANT TO THE ACT.

12/18/12	House	Prefiled
12/18/12	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary
01/08/13	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 110)
01/08/13	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 110)
02/06/13	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Daning
02/27/13	House	Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (House Journal-page 79)
03/06/13	House	Debate adjourned until Tues., 3-19-13 (House Journal-page 19)
03/19/13	House	Debate adjourned until Wed., 3-20-13 (House Journal-page 47)
03/20/13	House	Recommitted to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 54)