

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

H 3571 General Bill, By Hiott, Guffey, J.L. Johnson, Pedalino, Neese and B. Newton

Summary: Underground Facility Damage Prevention

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-20, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO ADD DEFINITIONS FOR "LARGE PROJECT," "NOTICE," "PRE-MARKING," "PRIVATE FACILITY," "PROJECT INITIATOR," AND "SOFT DIGGING" AND TO AMEND THE DEFINITIONS OF "EXCAVATE," "EXCAVATOR," AND "OPERATOR"; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-50, RELATING TO THE OPERATORS ASSOCIATION NOTIFICATION CENTER, SO AS TO CLARIFY OPERATOR PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION, THE NOTIFICATION CENTER'S DUTIES, AND OTHER CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-60, RELATING TO THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXCAVATE OR DEMOLISH, SO AS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TIME FOR NOTICE FOR CERTAIN EXCAVATIONS OR DEMOLITIONS AND OTHER CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-70, RELATING TO INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY OPERATORS, SO AS TO REQUIRE QUARTERLY REPORTS OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY AN EXCAVATION OR DEMOLITION AND TO CLARIFY PAYMENT OF A CIVIL PENALTY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-80, RELATING TO EMERGENCY EXCAVATIONS OR DEMOLITIONS EXEMPT FROM NOTICE REQUIREMENTS AND LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES, SO AS ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATION AND RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY AND TO MAKE A FALSE CLAIM OF AN EMERGENCY A VIOLATION OF THIS CHAPTER; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-90, RELATING TO NOTICE OF DAMAGES, SO AS TO REQUIRE AN EXCAVATOR TO IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY KNOWN DAMAGE TO THE NOTIFICATION CENTER AND FACILITY OPERATOR; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-100, RELATING TO DESIGN REQUESTS AND OPERATOR RESPONSE, SO AS TO ADD A REFERENCE TO LARGE PROJECTS; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-110, RELATING TO EXEMPTION FROM NOTICE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO STRIKE CURRENT PROVISIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 58-36-120, RELATING TO PENALTIES AND CIVIL REMEDIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR A COMPLAINT PROCESS THROUGH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES; AND BY ADDING SECTION 58-36-75, SO AS TO PROVIDE A PROCESS FOR LARGE PROJECTS.

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| 12/12/24 | House | Prefiled |
| 12/12/24 | House | Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry |
| 01/14/25 | House | Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 248) |
| 01/14/25 | House | Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 248) |
| 01/29/25 | House | Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Guffey |
| 02/20/25 | House | Member(s) request name added as sponsor: J.L.Johnson |
| 02/26/25 | House | Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Pedalino, Neese |
| 02/26/25 | House | Committee report: Favorable with amendment Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 5) |
| 02/27/25 | House | Member(s) request name added as sponsor: B.Newton |
| 02/27/25 | House | Amended (House Journal-page 14) |
| 02/27/25 | House | Read second time (House Journal-page 14) |
| 02/27/25 | House | Roll call Yeas-112 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 17) |
| 02/27/25 | House | Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day (House Journal-page 20) |
| 02/28/25 | House | Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 1) |
| 03/04/25 | Senate | Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 12) |
| 03/04/25 | Senate | Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 12) |
| 03/04/25 | | Scrivener's error corrected |