

## Session 121 - (2015-2016)

### **S 0014 General Bill, By Rankin and Courson**

***Similar (S 0001, S 0074, H 3184, H 3185, H 3722)***

#### **Summary:** Ethics Reform Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY AMENDING SECTIONS 2-17-20 AND 2-17-25 RELATING TO LOBBYISTS, TO AMEND LOBBYIST AND LOBBYIST'S PRINCIPAL REGISTRATION FEES; TO AMEND SECTIONS 2-17-30, 2-17-35, AND 2-17-40 TO PROVIDE FOR LOBBYING FILING REPORT DATES FOR LOBBYISTS, LOBBYIST'S PRINCIPALS, AND STATE AGENCIES; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-100(5) AND (9) TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "CANDIDATE" AND "CONTRIBUTION"; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-130 TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATE ETHICS COMMITTEE TO LEVY AN ENFORCEMENT OR ADMINISTRATIVE FEE FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTIGATING AND HEARING OF A VIOLATION; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-320(10)(g) REGARDING PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION; TO FURTHER AMEND SECTIONS 8-13-320 AND 8-13-530 TO PROVIDE FOR ETHICS LAW EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-360 TO PROVIDE FOR REPORTS FILED WITH THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION TO BE ELECTRONICALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-530 REGARDING DUTIES OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEES; TO ADD SECTION 8-13-535 TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR ETHICS COMMITTEES TO ISSUE ADVISORY OPINIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-540(3), RELATING TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEES AND THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING ETHICS LAWS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-740, RELATING TO REPRESENTATION OF ANOTHER PERSON BY A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BEFORE A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, SO AS TO FURTHER DELINEATE WHAT IS CONSIDERED A CONTESTED CASE WHEN REPRESENTATION BY A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS PERMITTED; TO ADD SECTION 8-13-756 TO PROVIDE SOME EXCEPTIONS IN THE PROHIBITION AGAINST FINANCIAL GAIN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYEES WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-870 TO ELIMINATE THE OPTION FOR THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION TO ISSUE AN ORAL WARNING OR REPRIMAND; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-790 TO REQUIRE RECOVERY OF THE VALUE OF ANYTHING RECEIVED BY A PUBLIC OFFICIAL OR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE IN VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 13, ARTICLES 1-11 OF TITLE 8; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1120, RELATING TO CONTENTS OF STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTEREST, TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THESE CONTENTS; TO ADD SECTIONS 8-13-1145 AND 8-13-1364 TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTRONIC NOTICE OF OBLIGATION TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISORY OFFICE; TO AMEND SECTIONS 8-13-1170 AND 8-13-1372, TO ELIMINATE CONFIDENTIALITY OF TECHNICAL VIOLATIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1300, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS IN REGARD TO CAMPAIGN PRACTICES, TO REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS AND TO ADD CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1302 TO PERMIT AN APPROPRIATE SUPERVISORY OFFICE TO REQUEST DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTION RECORDS; TO AMEND SECTIONS 8-13-1308 AND 8-13-1309 TO PROVIDE FOR PRE-ELECTION REPORTS TO BE FILED FIVE DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION; TO ADD SECTION 8-13-1311 TO ESTABLISH FILING REQUIREMENTS OF INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE-ONLY COMMITTEES; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1312 TO REQUIRE CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE EXPENSES TO BE PAID WITH A DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD OR THROUGH ONLINE TRANSFER AUTHORIZED BY THE CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE OFFICER; TO ADD SECTION 8-13-1313 TO ESTABLISH FILING REQUIREMENTS OF A PERSON, WHO IS NOT A COMMITTEE, WHO MAKES AN INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE; TO ADD SECTION 8-13-1315 TO PROVIDE CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS AGAINST AN ELECTED OFFICIAL OR CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE COORDINATING WITH AN INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE-ONLY COMMITTEE; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1318, RELATING TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO RETIRE CAMPAIGN DEBTS, TO REQUIRE ANY SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE ONLY; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1320 TO PROVIDE A TIME FRAME FOR WHEN CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ATTRIBUTED TO A PRIMARY RUN-OFF; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1322 TO PROVIDE THAT COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTION LIMITS DO NOT APPLY TO AN INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE-ONLY COMMITTEE; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1338 TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN STATE AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT HEADS FROM SOLICITING CANDIDATE CONTRIBUTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1340, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS BY ONE CANDIDATE TO ANOTHER, OR THROUGH COMMITTEES CONTROLLED BY A CANDIDATE, TO DELETE AN EXCEPTION FOR A COMMITTEE, OTHER THAN THE CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE, CONTROLLED BY A CANDIDATE IF IT IS THE ONLY SUCH COMMITTEE, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES;

**12/03/14 Senate Prefiled**

**12/03/14 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary**

**01/13/15 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 40)**

**01/13/15 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 40)**

02/05/15

Scrivener's error corrected