**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 44‑61‑160, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN PATIENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN INFORMATION, SO AS TO INCLUDE IN THE EXCEPTION FOR INVESTIGATION OR PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY THAT INFORMATION MAY BE RELEASED TO SHERIFFS AND CHIEFS OF POLICE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44‑61‑160(G) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 157 of 2010, is further amended to read:

“(G) The department, or a person or entity licensed or certified ~~under~~ pursuant to this section is required to disclose to the solicitor, sheriff, chief of police, or ~~his~~ their designee information received that could aid in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity. This includes, but is not limited to, information concerning child abuse, felony driving under the influence, assaults, or other crimes regardless of whether the information is obtained before, during, or after treatment. All information received by the solicitor ~~shall~~ must be held confidential by the solicitor or his designee unless ~~such~~ the information is necessary for criminal investigation and prosecution.”

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

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