AMENDED

April 26, 2012

**S. 947**

Introduced by Senators Malloy and Williams

S. Printed 4/26/12--H.

Read the first time April 25, 2012.

**A** **BILL**

TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM TO BE HELD AT THE SAME TIME AS THE 2012 GENERAL ELECTION TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MARLBORO COUNTY FAVOR CREATING A STATE AUTHORITY TO MANAGE AND OPERATE LAKE PAUL A. WALLACE TO BE FUNDED BY THE SALE OF WATER FROM THE LAKE TO THE CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE OR OTHER USERS AND BY LOCAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUE, FEES CHARGED FOR THE USE OF THE LAKE AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES TO OPERATE THE FACILITY FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS CREATED, WITH THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA RETAINING OWNERSHIP OF THE LAKE.

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

SECTION 1. (A) An advisory referendum must be held at the same time as the 2012 general election in Marlboro County on the question of whether or not the qualified electors of the county favor creating a state authority to manage and operate Lake Paul A. Wallace to be funded by the sale of water from the lake to the City of Bennettsville or other users and by local property tax revenue, fees charged for the use of the lake and other funding sources to operate the facility for the public purpose for which it was created, with the State of South Carolina retaining ownership of the lake. The advisory referendum for this purpose must be conducted by the election commission of Marlboro County at the same time as the 2012 general election. The county commissioners of election shall conduct and supervise the advisory referendum in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The commissioners shall frame the question for the ballot, prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the advisory referendum, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The commissioners shall advertise the date of the advisory referendum sixty days preceding it in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and shall publish a second notice thirty days before the advisory referendum. The cost of the advisory referendum must be paid by Marlboro County.

(B) The question put before the qualified electors of the county at the 2012 advisory referendum reads as follows:

“Do you favor creating a state authority to manage and operate Lake Paul A. Wallace to be funded by the sale of water from the lake to the City of Bennettsville or other users and by local property tax revenue, fees charged for the use of the lake and other funding sources to operate the facility for the public purpose for which it was created, with the State of South Carolina retaining ownership of the lake?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘No’.”

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

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