**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 38‑77‑127 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN AUTOMOBILE INSURER MUST VERIFY THE COVERAGE OF AN INSURED BY ELECTRONIC FORMAT TO A MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICE UPON REQUEST OF THE INSURED, AND TO PROVIDE A NECESSARY DEFINITION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56‑10‑225, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN AN AUTOMOBILE, SO AS TO PERMIT THE USE OF A MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICE TO SATISFY THESE REQUIREMENTS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 3, Chapter 77, Title 38 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 38‑77‑127. (A) An automobile insurer must issue verification concerning the existence of coverage it provides an insured in an electronic format to a mobile electronic device upon request of the insured.

(B) For purposes of this section, ‘mobile electronic device’ means a portable computing and communication device that has a display screen with touch input or a miniature keyboard and is capable of receiving information transmitted in an electronic format.”

SECTION 2. Section 56‑10‑225(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) The owner of a motor vehicle must maintain proof of financial responsibility in the motor vehicle at all times, and it must be displayed upon demand of a police officer or any other person duly authorized by law. Evidence of financial responsibility may be provided by use of a mobile electronic device.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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