**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 21, TITLE 24 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PROBATION, BY ADDING SECTION 24-21-435, TO PROVIDE THAT PROBATION OFFICERS, COURT PERSONNEL, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND PRIVATE VOLUNTEERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS IN WHICH A PROBATIONER IS COMPLETING COMMUNITY SERVICE AS A CONDITION OF PROBATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-21-430 ARE NOT LIABLE FOR CIVIL DAMAGES UNLESS AN INJURY OR DAMAGES RESULT FROM THE GROSS NEGLIGENCE, RECKLESSNESS, OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT OF SUCH PERSON.

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

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 21, Title 24 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 24-21-435. (A) Probation officers, court personnel, county and municipal personnel, public officials, and private volunteers who participate in community service programs in which a probationer is completing community service as a condition of probation pursuant to Section 24-21-430 are not liable for civil damages, unless an injury or damages result from the gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct of such person.

(B) Nothing in this section shall be construed as granting immunity to a driver transporting a probationer to community service or a motorist who, by his negligence, injures a probationer on community service.”

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

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