**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 60‑11‑75 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND NATURAL HISTORY SHALL REVIEW AND APPROVE ALL INSCRIPTIONS AND DEPICTIONS ON ALL HISTORICAL PLAQUES, HISTORICAL MARKERS, HISTORICAL MONUMENTS, AND OTHER MESSAGES RELATED TO HISTORICAL PLAQUES, HISTORICAL MARKERS, AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS LOCATED ON PROPERTY OWNED BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THE CONTENT OF SUCH DEPICTIONS, INSCRIPTIONS, OR MESSAGES ARE HISTORICALLY ACCURATE AND FREE OF ANY EDITORIAL COMMENTS OR SUBJECTIVE ANALYSES, TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED FEES, AND TO EXCLUDE SUCH HISTORICAL PLAQUES, MARKERS, OR OTHER MESSAGES IN PLACE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2019; AND TO AMEND SECTION 60‑11‑30, RELATING TO OBJECTS AND PURPOSES OF THE DEPARTMENT, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE APPROVAL OF INSCRIPTIONS AND DEPICTIONS FOR ALL HISTORICAL PLAQUES, HISTORICAL MARKERS, AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS, OR OTHER MESSAGES RELATED TO ALL HISTORICAL PLAQUES, HISTORICAL MARKERS, AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS LOCATED ON STATE‑OWNED PROPERTY OR PROPERTY OWNED BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INCLUDING ENSURING THAT THE CONTENT OF ANY SUCH DEPICTIONS, INSCRIPTIONS, OR MESSAGES ARE HISTORICALLY ACCURATE AND FREE FROM ANY EDITORIAL COMMENTS OR SUBJECTIVE ANALYSES.

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

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 60 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 60‑11‑75. (A) The department shall review and approve all inscriptions and depictions on all historical plaques, historical markers, historical monuments, and other messages related to historical plaques, historical markers, and historical monuments located on property owned by a political subdivision of the State or school district.

(B) The department:

(1) shall ensure the content of the depiction, inscription, or message is historically accurate and free of any editorial comments or subjective analysis; and

(2) is authorized to establish a fee for a related review and approval process.

(C) The provisions of this section do not apply to such historical plaques, historical markers, or other messages in place before January 1, 2019.”

SECTION 2. Section 60‑11‑30(6) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(6) The approval of the inscriptions ~~for all historical markers or other monuments erected on State highways or other State property~~ and depictions for all historical plaques, historical markers, and historical monuments, or other messages related to all historical plaques, historical markers, and historical monuments located on state highways or other state‑owned property, or on property owned by a political subdivision of the State or school district, including ensuring that the content of any such depictions, inscriptions, or messages are historically accurate and free from any editorial comments or subjective analysis;”

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

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