**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 11‑11‑250 SO AS TO ENACT THE “TEACHERS FIRST ACT”, TO PROVIDE THAT IN THE EVENT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ENACTS LEGISLATION IN WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFERS THREE DOLLARS FOR EVERY ONE STATE DOLLAR TO INCREASE TEACHER SALARIES, THEN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE FUNDS SO THAT EACH ELIGIBLE CERTIFIED SOUTH CAROLINA TEACHER RECEIVES A PERMANENT RAISE THAT WOULD BRING THE TEACHER’S SALARY UP TO THAT OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A COMPARABLE PROFESSION.

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

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the “Teachers First Act”.

SECTION 2. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 11 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 11‑11‑250. In the event the United States Congress enacts legislation in which the federal government offers three dollars for every one State dollar to increase teacher salaries, then, each year, the General Assembly shall appropriate sufficient funds so that each eligible certified South Carolina teacher, as specified by the federal legislation, receives a permanent raise that would bring the teacher’s salary up to that of an individual with a comparable profession. The average salary increase would be equal to approximately nineteen percent.”

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

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑