**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 24‑19‑10, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF CERTAIN TERMS WITHIN THE “JUDGE WILLIAM R. BYARS YOUTHFUL OFFENDER ACT”, SO AS TO REVISE THE AGE OF A PERSON TO BE CONSIDERED A YOUTHFUL OFFENDER FOR THE COMMISSION OF CERTAIN CRIMES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 24‑19‑10(d) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(d) ‘Youthful offender’ means an offender who is:

(i) under seventeen years of age and has been bound over for proper criminal proceedings to the court of general sessions pursuant to Section 63‑19‑1210, for allegedly committing an offense that is not a violent crime, as defined in Section 16‑1‑60, and that is a misdemeanor, a Class D, Class E, or Class F felony, as defined in Section 16‑1‑20, or a felony which provides for a maximum term of imprisonment of fifteen years or less;

(ii) seventeen but ~~less~~ not more than ~~twenty‑five~~ twenty‑eight years of age at the time of conviction for an offense that is not a violent crime, as defined in Section 16‑1‑60, and that is a misdemeanor, a Class D, Class E, or Class F felony, or a felony which provides for a maximum term of imprisonment of fifteen years or less;

(iii) under seventeen years of age and has been bound over for proper criminal proceedings to the court of general sessions pursuant to Section 63‑19‑1210, for allegedly committing burglary in the second degree (Section 16‑11‑312). If the offender committed burglary in the second degree pursuant to Section 16‑11‑312(B), the offender must receive and serve a minimum sentence of at least three years, no part of which may be suspended, and the person is not eligible for conditional release until the person has served the three‑year minimum sentence;

(iv) seventeen but less than twenty‑one years of age at the time of conviction for burglary in the second degree (Section 16‑11‑312). If the offender committed burglary in the second degree pursuant to Section 16‑11‑312(B), the offender must receive and serve a minimum sentence of at least three years, no part of which may be suspended, and the person is not eligible for conditional release until the person has served the three‑year minimum sentence;

(v) under seventeen years of age and has been bound over for proper criminal proceedings to the court of general sessions pursuant to Section 63‑19‑1210 for allegedly committing criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the third degree, pursuant to Section 16‑3‑655(C), and the alleged offense involved consensual sexual conduct with a person who was at least fourteen years of age at the time of the act; or

(vi) seventeen but ~~less~~ not more than ~~twenty‑five~~ twenty‑eight years of age at the time of conviction for committing criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the third degree, pursuant to Section 16‑3‑655(C), and the conviction resulted from consensual sexual conduct, provided the offender was eighteen years of age or less at the time of the act and the other person involved was at least fourteen years of age at the time of the act.”

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

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