**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT THE “SOUTH CAROLINA CLOSE THE REVOLVING DOOR ACT”; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑755, RELATING TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON FORMER PUBLIC OFFICIALS, MEMBERS, OR EMPLOYEES SERVING AS LOBBYISTS OR ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT IN THEIR FIELD OF FORMER SERVICE, SO AS TO INCREASE FROM ONE TO TWO YEARS, THE PROHIBITION AGAINST PUBLIC OFFICIALS, PUBLIC MEMBERS, OR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FROM LOBBYING OR ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT IN AN AREA IN WHICH THE OFFICIAL, MEMBER, OR EMPLOYEE DIRECTLY AND SUBSTANTIALLY PARTICIPATED DURING HIS PUBLIC SERVICE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS AFTER TERMINATING HIS PUBLIC SERVICE OR EMPLOYMENT, A FORMER PUBLIC OFFICIAL, FORMER PUBLIC MEMBER, OR FORMER PUBLIC EMPLOYEE HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE, MEMBERSHIP, OR EMPLOYMENT ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2022, MAY NOT HAVE AN ECONOMIC INTEREST IN A CONTRACT, GRANT, OR OTHER MATTER IN WHICH THE FORMER PUBLIC OFFICIAL, FORMER PUBLIC MEMBER, OR FORMER PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DIRECTLY AND SUBSTANTIALLY PARTICIPATED DURING HIS PUBLIC SERVICE OR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT.

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

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the “South Carolina Close the Revolving Door Act”.

SECTION 2. Section 8‑13‑755 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑755. (A) A former public official, former public member, or former public employee holding public office, membership, or employment on or after ~~January 1, 1992~~ July 1, 2022, may not for a period of ~~one year~~ two years after terminating his public service or employment:

(1) serve as a lobbyist or represent clients before the agency or department on which he formerly served in a matter which he directly and substantially participated during his public service or employment; or

(2) accept employment if the employment:

(a) is from a person who is regulated by the agency or department on which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee served or was employed; and

(b) involves a matter in which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee directly and substantially participated during his public service or public employment.

(B) For a period of two years after terminating his public service or employment, a former public official, former public member, or former public employee holding public office, membership, or employment on or after July 1, 2022, may not have an economic interest in a contract, grant, or other matter in which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee directly and substantially participated during his public service or public employment.”

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

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