**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 3221**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Ballentine

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Prefiled in the House on December 5, 2024

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Labor, Commerce and Industry**

Summary: Local entity secured deposits

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 12/5/2024 House Prefiled

 12/5/2024 House Referred to Committee on **Labor, Commerce and Industry**

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/05/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3221_20241205.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 6-5-15, RELATING TO SECURING DEPOSITS OF FUNDS BY LOCAL ENTITIES, SO AS TO INCLUDE PROVISIONS CONCERNING CREDIT UNIONS AND THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION SHARE INSURANCE FUND.

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

SECTION 1. Section 6-5-15 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 Section 6-5-15. (A) As used in this section, “local entity” means the governing body of a municipality, county, school district, other local government unit or political subdivision, or a county treasurer.

 (B) A qualified public depository, as defined in subsection (G), upon the deposit of funds by a local entity, must secure these deposits by deposit insurance, surety bonds, investment securities, or letters of credit to protect the local entity against loss in the event of insolvency or liquidation of the institution or for any other cause.

 (C) To the extent that these deposits exceed the amount of insurance coverage provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, the qualified public depository at the time of deposit must:

 (1) furnish an indemnity bond in a responsible surety company authorized to do business in this State; or

 (2) pledge as collateral:

 (a) obligations of the United States;

 (b) obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States;

 (c) general obligations of this State or any political subdivision of this State; or

 (d) obligations of the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation; or

 (3) provide an irrevocable letter of credit issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, in which the local entity is named as beneficiary and the letter of credit otherwise meets the criteria established and prescribed by the local entity.

 (D) The local entity must exercise prudence in accepting collateral securities or other forms of deposit security.

 (E)(1) A qualified public depository has the following options:

 (a) to secure all or a portion of uninsured funds under the Dedicated Method where all or a portion of the uninsured funds are secured separately. The qualified public depository shall maintain a record of all securities pledged, with the record being an official record of the qualified public depository and made available to examiners or representatives of all regulatory agencies. The local entity shall maintain a record of the securities pledged for monitoring purposes;

 (b) to secure all or the remainder of uninsured funds under the Pooling Method where a pool of collateral is established by the qualified public depository under the direction of the State Treasurer for the benefit of local entities. The depository shall obtain written approval from each entity before pooling an entity's collateral. The depository shall maintain a record of all securities pledged, with the record being an official record of the qualified public depository and made available to examiners or representatives of all regulatory agencies. The State Treasurer shall determine the requirements and operating procedures for this pool. The State Treasurer is responsible for monitoring and ensuring a depository's compliance and providing monthly reports to each local entity in the pool.

 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (1), the local entity, when other federal or state law applies, may require a qualified public depository to secure all uninsured funds separately under the Dedicated Method.

 (F) A qualified public depository shall not accept or retain any funds that are required to be secured unless it has deposited eligible collateral equal to its required collateral with some proper depository pursuant to this chapter.

 (G) “Qualified public depository” means a national banking association, state banking association, federal savings and loan association, federal credit union, state credit union, or federal savings bank located in this State and a bank, credit union, trust company, or savings institution organized under the law of this State that receives or holds funds that are secured pursuant to this chapter.

 (H) In addition to the investments authorized for local entities in Section 6-5-10 and notwithstanding another provision of law, a local entity may deposit all or a portion of surplus public funds in its control or possession in accordance with the following conditions:

 (1) the funds are initially deposited in a qualified public depository selected by the local entity;

 (2) the selected qualified public depository arranges for depositing the funds in one or more federally insured banks, credit unions, or savings and loan associations, wherever located, for the account of the local entity;

 (3) the full amount of the principal and accrued interest of each deposit is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund; and

 (4) the selected qualified public depository acts as custodian for the local entity with respect to each deposit.

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

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