**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 3949**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. King and Duncan

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Introduced in the House on February 11, 2025

Currently residing in the House

Summary: State anthem

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/11/2025 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 9](h:\hj\20250211.docx))

2/11/2025 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 9](h:\hj\20250211.docx))

2/20/2025 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Duncan

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3949&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[02/11/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3949_20250211.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 1‑1‑614 SO AS TO DESIGNATE “DUM SPIRO SPERO” TRANSLATED AS “WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE” AS THE OFFICIAL CHORAL ANTHEM OF THE STATE.

Whereas, the lyrics of the song “While I Breathe, I Hope” are “From the Blue of coastal waters to the green of mountainsides. We stand as sons and daughters of those who bled and died to defend our common interest so we might live and breathe. We take this freedom given and build upon their dreams. Dum spiro spero, while we breathe we hope. Hope enough for all who dwell here under Carolina skies. Hope for tomorrow that begins with us today, and will last for generations for all who chose to stay.” Now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Article 9, Chapter 1, Title 1 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 1‑1‑614. “Dum Spiro Spero” translated as “While I Breathe, I Hope” is the official choral anthem of the State.

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

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