

34.8 – Emergency Medical Services. Provides for the allocation of Emergency Medical Services funds to counties, EMS Regional Councils, and the state EMS office. Prohibits funds appropriated for EMS from being transferred to other programs within the department’s budget. Deletes the 50% restriction on the amount of carry forward funds that may be spent for administrative and operational support. Directs that after January 1, 50% of unclaimed funds used for aid to counties from the prior fiscal year be transferred to the SC EMS Association.

60.11 – PCC: Caseload Equalization Funding. The proviso is amended to direct that after the first \$3,450,000 is distributed with each county receiving \$75,000, the next \$1,248,000 is distributed with each circuit receiving \$78,000. Of the additional amounts appropriated the first \$48,000 shall be distributed at \$3,000 per circuit and the remaining funds shall be distributed based on the average incoming caseload for each county for the prior three fiscal years.

60.ir – Intake and Review Funding. Provides for the distribution of Intake and Review Program funds. Directs that the first \$1,248,000 be distributed as follows: \$78,000 to each circuit with the remaining \$2,054,000 distributed based on the average incoming caseload for each county for the prior three fiscal years. Also directs that in the current fiscal year, of the additional amounts appropriated, the first \$48,000 be distributed at \$3,000 to each circuit and the remaining funds be distributed based on the average incoming caseload for each county for the prior three fiscal years.

73.obc – Office of Broadband Coordination. Establishes the Office of Broadband Coordinator to serve as the broadband planning body for the state and coordinate with entities to encourage development of broadband access. Also directs that \$30 million be appropriated to continue to fund the Broadband Infrastructure Project including projects that were approved for funding in 2020 but not constructed by December, 2020.

73.bm – South Carolina Broadband Map. Directs the Office of Broadband Coordinator to contact the appropriate entities to provide information necessary to compile the county-by-county mapping plan that shows the location and broadband facility capabilities throughout the State. Also requires that any entities providing broadband service or middle-mile infrastructure in South Carolina provide the Office of Broadband Coordinator deployment data and the type of technology deployed with sustainable download and upload speeds on an annual basis.

81.fr – First Responder PTSD Treatment. Directs the Department of LLR to distribute First Responder PTSD treatment funds appropriated to the State Fire Marshal’s Office to the S.C. Firefighter Assistance Support Team to reimburse firefighters and EMT’s for actual out-of-pocket expenses for mental injuries not covered through workers’ compensation claims or other insurances. The budget, as passed by the Ways and Means Committee, allocates \$250,000 to SLED and \$250,000 to the Department of LLR.

100.18 – Natural Disaster FEMA Match. Authorizes the Office of Adjutant General, Emergency Management Division to utilize existing funds in FY 2021-2022 to provide the non-federal match for local governments for eligible FEMA work from Hurricanes Irma and Florence as well as the Ice Storm disaster from 2014.

106.2 – PEBA Retirement System Employee Increase. Directs that the contribution rate for SCRS and PORS for Fiscal Year 2021-22 shall increase by 1% from the rate in Fiscal Year 2020-21 rates. The increase in employer contribution rate was suspended in Fiscal Year 2020-21.

108.rwe – COVID-19 Return to work Extension. Directs that for FY 2021-22, the earnings limitation does not apply to retired SCRS or PORS members who return to covered employment to participate in the state’s public health preparedness and response to COVID-19.

108.op – Optional Payment of Employee Contributions by Employer. Allows an employer in the SCRS or PORS, by July 1, 2021, to elect to pay all or a portion of the employee contribution. Directs that an employer which chooses to exercise this option shall, in lieu of compensation deductions, pick up all or a portion of the required employee contributions and shall not reduce or offset its employees’ compensation.

108.naf – Non-State Agency Furloughs. Allows an employer which participates in the SCRS or PORS that is not a state agency or institution of higher learning to make both employee and employer contributions for up to 90 working days during a furlough program that was implemented due to COVID-19, if the terms of the furlough program were consistent with the requirements of an approved mandatory furlough program established by a state agency or institution.

113.cps – Capital Project Sales Tax (CPST) Revenue. This proviso allows a county that has CPST collections in excess of the amount necessary to complete all projects for which the tax was imposed to pledge and use the excess collections to fund road improvements, intersection improvements, and pedestrian transportation, as long as the tax has not yet expired. However, the county must first adopt an ordinance specifying the purposes for which the excess funds will be used.

117.143 – Lake Marion Pedestrian Bridge. Ways and Means deleted this proviso directing DOT and Santee Cooper to develop a plan and cost estimate for repairing the US 15/US 301 bridge over Lake Marion for public pedestrian and bike traffic as this plan has been developed.