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**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS AT THE NEXT ELECTION FOR REPRESENTATIVES AMONG THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF A TERRITORY PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN FROM GEORGETOWN COUNTY AND GIVEN TO HORRY COUNTY PURSUANT TO SECTION 7, ARTICLE VII, CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, PROVIDING THAT IF APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE VOTES CAST, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS NEXT SESSION SHALL PROVIDE BY LAW FOR THE ALTERATION OF THE HORRY-GEORGETOWN COUNTY LINE, AND PROVIDING THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ANOTHER PROVISION OF LAW, DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE OUTCOME OF THE REFERENDUM REQUIRED BY THIS JOINT RESOLUTION, IT IS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY’S INTENT NOT TO AFFECT, ALTER, RELEASE, OR EXTINGUISH ANY EXISTING ACTIONS, RIGHTS, DUTIES, PENALTIES, FORFEITURES, OR LIABILITIES RESULTING FROM HORRY AND GEORGETOWN COUNTIES’ MISINTERPRETATION OF THE ACTUAL HORRY-GEORGETOWN COUNTY LINE AS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND DELINEATED IN CHAPTER 3, TITLE 4 OF THE 1976 CODE, AND PROVIDING FURTHER THAT HAD THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY INTENDED TO AFFECT, DISTURB, OR DISRUPT THE STATUS QUO REGARDING ANY OF THE FOREGOING DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE OUTCOME OF THE REFERENDUM REQUIRED BY THIS JOINT RESOLUTION, IT WOULD HAVE SO EXPRESSLY PROVIDED.

1 Whereas, pursuant to Section 7, Article VII, Constitution of South  
2 Carolina, 1895, the General Assembly is authorized to alter County  
3 lines at any time, provided that before any county line is altered, the  
4 question must be submitted to the qualified electors of the territory  
5 proposed to be taken from one county and given to another, and shall  
6 have received two-thirds of the votes cast; and

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8 Whereas, if approved by two-thirds of the votes cast after  
9 submission of the question to the qualified electors of the territory  
10 proposed to be taken, the General Assembly at its next session shall  
11 provide by law for the alteration of the county lines; and

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13 Whereas, the General Assembly is informed that for many years,  
14 Horry County and Georgetown County have recognized a county  
15 line that differs from the actual Horry-Georgetown County line as  
16 evidenced by the annexation plat cited in Section 4-3-311(B), and  
17 as approved by the General Assembly and delineated in Chapter 3,  
18 Title 4 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976; and

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20 Whereas, as a result of the misunderstanding by Horry and  
21 Georgetown Counties regarding the actual Horry-Georgetown  
22 County line, there is an affected area within Georgetown County,  
23 consisting of least one hundred ninety-nine parcels, whose owners  
24 erroneously believe their properties are located in Horry County.  
25 Now, therefore,

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

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30 SECTION 1. The Horry County Board of Voter Registration and  
31 Elections shall conduct a referendum at the next election for  
32 Representatives among the qualified electors residing in that portion  
33 of Georgetown County affected by Horry and Georgetown  
34 Counties' misinterpretation of the actual Horry-Georgetown County  
35 line as approved by the General Assembly and delineated in Chapter  
36 3, Title 4 of the Code of the 1976 Code. The question to be submitted  
37 the qualified electors of the affected area is whether or not the  
38 qualified electors wish to have such portion of Georgetown County  
39 taken from Georgetown County and given to Horry County. The  
40 Horry County Board of Voter Registration and Elections shall  
41 conduct and supervise the referendum in the same manner governed  
42 by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The board shall

1 frame the question for the ballot, prepare the necessary ballots,  
2 appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things  
3 necessary to carry out the referendum, including the counting of  
4 ballots and declaring the results. The board shall advertise the date  
5 of the referendum sixty days preceding it in a newspaper of general  
6 circulation in the area where the referendum is to be conducted and  
7 shall publish a second notice thirty days before the advisory  
8 referendum. The cost of the advisory referendum must be paid by  
9 Horry County.

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11 SECTION 2. If approved by two-thirds of the votes cast after  
12 submission of the question to the qualified electors of the territory  
13 proposed to be taken pursuant to SECTION 1, the General  
14 Assembly at its next session shall provide by law for the alteration  
15 of the Horry-Georgetown County line.

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17 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding another provision of law, during the  
18 pendency of the outcome of the referendum required by this Joint  
19 Resolution, it is the General Assembly's intent not to affect, alter,  
20 release, or extinguish any existing actions, rights, duties, penalties,  
21 forfeitures, or liabilities resulting from Horry and Georgetown  
22 Counties' misinterpretation of the actual Horry-Georgetown County  
23 line as approved by the General Assembly and delineated in Chapter  
24 3, Title 4 of the 1976 Code, and had the General Assembly intended  
25 to affect, disturb, or disrupt the status quo regarding any of the  
26 foregoing during the pendency of the outcome of the referendum  
27 required by this Joint Resolution, it would have so expressly  
28 provided.

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30 SECTION 4. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by  
31 the Governor.

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