**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**A56, R89, S214**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Massey and Jackson

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Introduced in the Senate on January 15, 2025

Introduced in the House on May 6, 2025

Last Amended on April 30, 2025

Currently residing in the House

Governor's Action: May 20, 2025, Signed

Summary: State Commission for Community Advancement and Engagement

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/15/2025 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal‑page 8)

 1/15/2025 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** (Senate Journal‑page 8)

 4/16/2025 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** (Senate Journal‑page 19)

 4/30/2025 Senate Amended (Senate Journal‑page 26)

 4/30/2025 Senate Committee Amendment Tabled (Senate Journal‑page 26)

 4/30/2025 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal‑page 26)

 4/30/2025 Senate Roll call Ayes-41 Nays-0 (Senate Journal‑page 26)

 5/1/2025 Senate Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal‑page 20)

 5/6/2025 House Introduced, read first time, placed on calendar without reference (House Journal‑page 11)

 5/7/2025 House Read second time (House Journal‑page 33)

 5/7/2025 House Roll call Yeas-76 Nays-31 (House Journal‑page 34)

 5/8/2025 House Read third time and enrolled (House Journal‑page 82)

 5/20/2025 Ratified R 89

 5/20/2025 Signed By Governor

 5/21/2025 Effective date 05/20/25

 5/21/2025 Act No. 56

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/15/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/214_20250115.docx)

[04/16/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/214_20250416.docx)

[04/30/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/214_20250430.docx)

[05/06/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/214_20250506.docx)

(A56, R89, S214)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 1-31-10, RELATING TO THE COMMISSION FOR MINORITY AFFAIRS, SO AS TO RENAME THE COMMISSION AND TO REMOVE COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS; BY AMENDING SECTION 1-31-20, RELATING TO SUBJECTS OF STUDY FOR THE COMMISSION, SO AS TO STUDY SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEPrIVATION OF COMMUNITIES; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 1-31-40, RELATING TO DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION, SO AS TO DELETE CERTAIN DUTIES.

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

State Commission for Community Advancement and Engagement

SECTION 1. Section 1‑31‑10 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 Section 1‑31‑10. There is created a State Commission for Community Advancement and Engagement consisting of nine members and the Governor ex officio. The Governor must appoint one person from each of the congressional districts of the State and two persons from the State at large upon the advice and consent of the Senate. The Governor shall designate the chairman. The members serve for a term of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualify. A vacancy must be filled in the same manner as original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term. In making appointments, the Governor and Senate shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that members reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of the State.

Commission studies

SECTION 2. Section 1-31-20 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 Section 1-31-20. The commission must meet quarterly and at other times as the chairman determines necessary to study the causes and effects of the socio-economic deprivation of communities in the State and to implement programs necessary to address socio-economic inequities confronting the State.

Commission duties

SECTION 3. Section 1-31-40 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 Section 1-31-40. (A) The commission shall:

 (1) provide the State with a single point of contact for statistical and technical assistance in the areas of research and planning for a greater economic future;

 (2) work with elected officials on the state, county, and local levels of government in disseminating statistical data and its impact on their constituencies;

 (3) provide for publication of a statewide statistical abstract on rural and under-resourced community affairs;

 (4) provide statistical analyses for members of the General Assembly on the state of rural and under-resourced communities as the State experiences economic growth and changes;

 (5) determine, approve, and acknowledge by certification state recognition for Native American Indian entities; however, notwithstanding their state certification, the tribes have no power or authority to take any action which would establish, advance, or promote any form of gambling in this State;

 (6) establish advisory committees representative of the state’s geographic regions, as the commission considers appropriate to advise the commission;

 (7) act as liaison with the business community to provide programs and opportunities to fulfill its duties under this chapter;

 (8) seek federal and other funding on behalf of the State of South Carolina for the express purpose of implementing various programs and services for rural and under-resourced communities;

 (9) promulgate regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this article including, but not limited to, regulations regarding State Recognition of Native American Indian entities in the State of South Carolina; and

 (10) perform other duties necessary to implement programs.

 (B) The commission may delegate these powers and duties as necessary.

 (C) Nothing in this chapter recognizes, creates, extends, or forms the basis of any right or claim of interest in land or real estate in this State for any Native American tribe which is recognized by the State.

Time effective

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 20th day of May, 2025.

Approved the 20th day of May, 2025.

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