

**AN ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A PROHIBITION ON PICKETING TARGETED AT PRIVATE RESIDENCES.**

An act relating to residential picketing; creating Greenville County Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_; defining the term “dwelling”; prohibiting a person from picketing or protesting before or about the dwelling of a person with specified intent; providing criminal penalties; requiring a specified warning before arrest for a violation; providing an effective date.

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County has a significant interest in protecting the tranquility and privacy of the home and protecting citizens from the detrimental effect of targeted picketing, and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States recognized this interest in upholding a challenged ordinance restricting residential picketing in Frisby v. Schultz, 487 U.S. 474 (1988),

**NOW, BE IT ORDAINED** by the County Council of Greenville County, South Carolina:

Section 1. Greenville County Ordinance No.: \_\_\_\_\_, is created to read:

Residential picketing.

(1) As used in this section, the term “dwelling” means a building, structure, or portion thereof which is occupied as, or designed or intended for occupancy as, a residence by one or more families.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to picket or protest before or about the dwelling of any person with the intent to harass or disturb that person in his or her dwelling.

(3) A person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to a \$500 fine and thirty (30) days in jail per violation.

(4) Before a person may be arrested for a violation of this section, a law enforcement officer, or a local, state, federal, or military law enforcement agency must go as near to the person as may be done with safety and shall command any person picketing or protesting before or about the dwelling of a person to immediately and peaceably disperse. If any such person does not thereupon immediately and peaceably disperse, he or she may be arrested for a violation of this section.

(Remainder of Page Intentionally Blank).

Section 2. Severability

Severability is intended throughout and within the provisions of this Ordinance. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

**DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.**

GREENVILLE COUNTY

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Willis H. Meadows, Chairman  
County Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Regina McCaskill  
Clerk to Council

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Joseph M. Kernell  
County Administrator