

South Carolina Student Legislature



“Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility.”

Delegates,

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for the opportunity to serve each and every one of you as the Governor of South Carolina Student Legislature in the sixty-second legislative year.

My staff as well as myself have spent a great deal of time formalizing the operations of SCSL to ensure a smooth and organized transition for our successors in years to come. Over the past several years the organization has worked hard to obtain 501(c)(3) status and we have continued this effort. The continuation of this goal would not have been possible without the amazing work of past delegates who were on the forefront of this effort and the current dedicated individuals.

I would like to express my greatest appreciation for each and every one of the members of the body who make this organization possible and more closely thank the individuals who I have had the honor of working closely and consistently with to plan and organize spring session, without them this would not have been possible.

I look forward to serving you all again in the fall session of two thousand and nineteen. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity.

“You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated” ~Maya Angelou

Kiley Bennett

Governor- South Carolina Student Legislature

College of Charleston

**South Carolina Student Legislature
Executive Committee
2019**

Governor

Kiley Bennett
College of Charleston

Lieutenant Governor

Alexander Leasure
Erskine College

Speaker of the House

Josh Casillas
Bob Jones University

President Pro Tempore

Delaney Atkinson
Erskine College

Speaker Pro Tempore

Allison Lavalley
Coastal Carolina University

**South Carolina Student Legislature
Cabinet
2019**

Secretary of State
Thomasena Thomas
College of Charleston

Chief Justice
Judah Smith
Bob Jones University

Attorney General
Adrian Galloway
University of South Carolina

Treasurer
Nathan Swaim
Bob Jones University

Parliamentarian
Robert Banks
Charleston Southern University

Comptroller General
Christian Snell
Coastal Carolina University

**South Carolina Student Legislature
Office of the Governor 2019**

Chief of Staff

Robert Cathcart
University of South Carolina

Director of Internal Affairs

Currently Vacant

Governmental Affairs

Currently Vacant

Delegation Recruiting Director

Kiley Bennett
College of Charleston

Public Relations Director

Currently Vacant

Delegation Alumni Director

Currently Vacant

**South Carolina Student Legislature
Delegation Chairs
2019**

Bob Jones University
Judah Smith

Charleston Southern University
Robert Banks

The Citadel
Cody Sims

Clemson University
Jasmine Robinson

Coastal Carolina University
David Goodson

College of Charleston
George Hicks

Erskine College
Delaney Atkinson

Francis Marion University
Tyrell Rowell

Presbyterian College
Hunter Popkin

University of South Carolina
Jacob Vining

Winthrop University
Jasmine Robinson

Former Governors of South Carolina Student Legislature

<u>Year</u>	<u>Governor</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Misc. Organizational Meeting</u>
1957	Robert McNair	University of South Carolina	
1958	Robert Fogarty	Wofford College	
1959	Jim Creel	Clemson University	
1960	Jim Creel	Clemson University	
1961	William Sarchte	Clemson University	James Truesdale (University of South Carolina)
1962	James Truesdale	University of South Carolina	
1963	Mike Daniel	University of South Carolina	
1964	Pete Levintis, III	The Citadel	
1965	William Youngblood	University of South Carolina	
1966	William Yarborough	Furman University	
1967	John Ellenburg	Clemson University	
1968	William McDougall	University of South Carolina	
1969	Huck Nelson	Greenville Technical College	Barney Blackwell (University of South Carolina)
1970	John Linton	Wofford College	
1971	Edward Woodward	The Citadel	
1972	Polly Span	University of South Carolina	
1973	Gerry Hough	Clemson University	Sharon Davis (Winthrop University)
1974	Lee Atwater	Newberry College	
1975	James Hitch	University of South Carolina	
1976	Eugenia Bettis	North Greenville College	
1977	Alvin Roog	Newberry College	
1978	Lemuel Gray	Trident Technical College	Davis Watson (Francis Marion University)
1979	Steve Columbia	The Citadel	Wan Hipp (University of South Carolina)
1980	Laura Harris	University of South Carolina	
1981	Joey Hudson	Winthrop College	
1982	Joey Hudson	Winthrop College	
1983	Ricky Wade	University of South Carolina	
1984	Tony Snell	University of South Carolina	
1985	Tony Snell	University of South Carolina	
1986	Steven Neeves	Coastal Carolina University	
1987	Jody Styron	Erskine College	
1988	Tracy Johnson	Columbia College	

1989	Hamilton Nelson	The Citadel	Janie Randall (Columbia College)
1990	Gardner Jackson	Furman University	
1991	Jeff Fowler	Clemson University	
1992	Keith Melton	Clemson University	
1993	Dan Herran	Furman University	
1994	Melinda Diller	Presbyterian College	
1995	Todd Thayer	Clemson University	James Duke (Coastal Carolina University)
1996	Jennifer Graziano	Bob Jones University	
1997	Stuart Cate	The Citadel	
1998	Bryan Menees	University of South Carolina	
1999	Adrian Scott Frederic	Clemson University	
2000	Frederic Marcinak	The Citadel	
2001	Ashley Walters	Columbia College	
2002	Luke Franks	Bob Jones University	
2003	Joseph Opperman	University of South Carolina	
2004	Mandy Kulcsar	Clemson University	
2005	Ed Sutton	The Citadel	
2006	Timothy Silvester	Bob Jones University	
2007	Phillip Paradise	College of Charleston	
2008	Jade Roy	The Citadel	
2009	Will Freeman	College of Charleston	
2010	Chandler Hudson	Clemson University	
2011	Anderson Rouse	Bob Jones University	
2012	Blair Bolen	Clemson University	
2013	W.R. Simpson, III	Francis Marion University	
2014	Matthew Thomas	Bob Jones University	
2015	James McManus	The Citadel	
2016	Cameron Dominy	Charleston Southern University	
2017	Elliott Kelley	Bob Jones University	
2018 (Spring)	Ben Anderson	Coastal Carolina University	
2018 (Fall)	Bradley Shepard	Bob Jones University	
2019	Kiley Bennett	College of Charleston	

South Carolina Student Legislature Parliamentary Procedure Guide

Overview

Parliamentary Procedure is used in SCSL because it is a time-tested set of rules that allows everyone to be heard and made decisions without confusion.

How it Works

The Chair (person who is presiding over session at the time) will begin by reading the purpose statement of the bill that is in line to be debated. The following table illustrates the activities that take place when a bill is being debated and the time allotted for each activity.

Activity	Description	Time Allotted
Speeches	The bill author approaches the well to present his/her bill	3 minutes
Question & Answer	Members of the body may ask the bill author questions	2 minutes
Pro/Con Debate	Members of the body may give speeches in favor or opposition of the bill	5 minutes
Last Rights	The bill author may reserve his/her last right to address any questions/issues raised	1 minute

*Time limits to Q&A and Pro/Con debate can be limited when a member makes a motion

Speeches

After reading the purpose statement of the bill up for debate, the Chair will ask if the bill author is present. If it is your bill, you should respond by saying "I am. May I approach the well?" Once the Chair has given you permission, you may approach the well. If you wish to reserve your last rights (ability to speak right before the vote is called), this is the appropriate time to invoke your right. You may do so by saying "I reserve my last right." Then you may begin presenting your bill.

Question & Answer

After the bill author has presented his/her bill, members of the body are free to ask questions of the bill author. Questions should not be argumentative. To obtain the floor, raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the chair. After obtaining the floor, you should stand and state your name, school and one of the three following statements:

"Will the speaker yield to a question?" - When you have a single question

"Will the speaker yield to a possible series?" - When you have an initial question and possible one (1) to two (2) follow up questions

"Will the speaker yield to a series?" - When you have more than one question. A series is a maximum of three (3) questions in a row before the speaker is deemed out of order.

Once your question(s) have been answered, please take a seat. After the time period for question and answer has elapsed, we will then move into a time of pro/con debate on the bill. If members of the body still have questions, a member may make a motion to extend the time for question and answer, usually limited by a certain amount of time.

Pro/Con Debate

After question and answer, we move into a period of alternating pro/con debate on the bill, beginning with an affirmative speech. If you wish to give a speech in favor of the bill, you signify by raising your hand with an open palm and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

Should you wish to give a speech in opposition, you signify by raising your hand with a closed fist and await recognition from the Chair. After obtaining the floor, please stand and state your name and school and then proceed with your speech in favor/opposition.

There are no time limits on each individual's speech but please be considerate of other who wish to speak on the matter. If need be a motion may be made to extend the period of pro/con debate, usually limited by a certain amount of time.

Amendments

If, throughout the course of pro/con debate, the need for an amendment to the bill should arise, amendment forms will be available from the Chair. You should quietly, so as not to disrupt the debate, obtain an amendment form, complete it and return it to the Chair. Once you obtain the floor, you should say, "I believe there is an amendment on the floor." The Chair will acknowledge the amendment on the floor and read the amendment. From this point, the amendment process follows the same as presenting a bill - speech by author, question & answer, debate, and the vote. Once the amendment has been voted on, debate on the bill, with or without the amendment, will resume.

The Rules

Point of Privilege - pertains to noise, personal comfort, ect. - may interrupt only if necessary!

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry - inquire as to the correct motion - to accomplish a desired result, or raise a point of order

Point of Information - generally applies to information desired from the speaker

Point of Order - Infraction of the rules, or improper decorum in speaking. Must be raise immediately after the error is made

Division - calls for a standing vote if there is a disagreement with the Chair's voice count. Must have 5 members standing for this to carry.

Amend - inserting or striking out words or paragraphs, or substituting whole paragraphs or resolutions

Withdraw/Modify Motion - applies only after the question is stated; mover can accept an amendment without obtaining the floor

Extend Debate - applies only to the immediately pending questions; extends until a certain time or for a certain time period

Limit Debate- closing debate at a certain time, or limiting to a certain period of time

Postpone to a Certain Time - state the time the motion or agenda item will be resumed

Object to Consideration - objection must be stated before discussion or another motion is stated

Lay on the Table (Table) - temporarily suspends further consideration/action on pending question; may be made after motion to close debate has carried or is pending. This motion, as per Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, may not be used to terminate debate on legislation.

Take from the Table (Un-table) - resumes consideration of item previously "laid on the table" - state the motion to take from the table

Reconsider - can be made on the prevailing side who has changed position or view

Postpone Indefinitely - kills the question/resolution for this session - exception: the motion to reconsider can be made in this session

Previous Question - closed debate if successful

Appeal Decision of the Chair - appeal for the assembly to decide-must be made before other business is resumed; NOT debatable if relates to decorum, violation of rules, or order of business

Suspend the Rules - allows a violation of the assembly's own rules (except Constitution); the object of the suspension must be specified.

Parliamentary Motions Guide

Based on Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised
(11th Edition)

The Motions below are listed in order of precedence.

Any motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.

You Want To:	You Say:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?
§21 Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§20 Take break	I move to recess for	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§19 Register complain	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
§18 Make follow agenda	I call for the orders of the day	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17 Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§16 Close debate	Move the previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15 Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
§14 Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13 Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12 Modify wording of motion	I move to amend the motion by...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§11 Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§10 Bring business before assembly (a main motion)	I move that (or "to")...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

Incidental Motions - no order of precedence. Arise incidentally and decided immediately.

You Want To:	You Say:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?
§23 Enforce rules	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24 Submit matter to assembly	I appeal from the decision of the Chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§24 Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules which...	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26 Avoid main motion altogether	I object the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§27 Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§29 Demand rising vote	I call for a division	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33 Parliamentary Law question	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes (if urgent)	No	No	No	None
§33 Request for information	Point of information	Yes (if urgent)	No	No	No	None

Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly - no order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else pending.

You Want To:	You Say:	Interrupt?	2nd?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?
§23 Take matter from table	I move to take from the table...	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§24 Cancel or change previous action	I move to rescind/amend something previously adopted...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 or with notice
§24 Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider the vote...	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority

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Bill No.	Bill Author	Delegation	Purpose
16	Bradley D. Galbraith	Citadel	To amend the time window in which telemarketers are permitted to make phone calls in order to assist possible victims of predatory phone calls.
17	Briggs Smith	Citadel	To adjust noneconomic damage award limits of medical malpractice lawsuits in the state of South Carolina.
19	Grayson Gasque	Citadel	To prohibit the use of seismic airgun testing for oil exploration off the coast of South Carolina.
20	Will Jensen	Citadel	To limit the ability of employers to inquire, consider, or require the disclosure of previous criminal history of job applicants and employees.
22	Samuel Little	Citadel	To raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to twenty-one and to make this offense grounds for the revocation or suspension of a vendor's beer and wine permit.
24	Shane Lutz	Citadel	All sexual lifestyles need to be covered by the Health Education curriculum in the South Carolina Public School System for the betterment of those who live said lifestyles and those who would gain a proper understanding of others.
26	Connor Thomas	Citadel	To allow the right of a final vote on election day at the voter's polling place that would negate all earlier votes.
28	Precious McLaughlin	FMU	To abolish the death penalty in the state of South Carolina.
33	Aaron Simmons	FMU	To raise the awareness about mental health amongst adolescents.
35	Tyrell M. Rowell	FMU	To change part of the statute of the SC Stand Your Ground Law.
37	Miguel A. Velert & Alexis Evans	FMU	To provide adequate compensation for state employees and students of higher education while traveling in an official capacity out of state in regards to the institution.
39	Emoni Gerald	FMU	To amend section 53-5-10 in chapter 5 of title 53 in the South Carolina Code of Laws.
40	Emoni Gerald	FMU	To engage more people of the State of South Carolina in the voting process.
41	Stephen-Thomas Tyler Moore	FMU	Place a ban on "overly squatted" trucks in the state of South Carolina.

43	Hunter Popkin	PC	To make the panic defense for crimes against people who have non traditional sexual orientation or gender identity unusable.
44	Hunter Popkin	PC	To provide asset protection to citizens not convicted of a crime.
45	Pierce M Hammen	CSU	To transition the state of South Carolina to a power source that will be safer, cheaper, and more self-sustaining than the current green initiatives.
47	Luke Maybin	CSU	To support the increase of defense in the state of South Carolina.
48	Michael Kelly	CSU	To improve security in South Carolina.
49	Zach Pace	CSU	To increase county unity in South Carolina.
50	Robert Banks	CSU	To encourage the growth of trade.
51	Anna Weeks	CSU	To create a healthier South Carolina.
53	Aryn Akerberg	BJU	To improve the accountability of judges in South Carolina.
55	Carson McQuaid	BJU	To amend South Carolina immunization requirements for homeschooled children.
57	Reagan Musselman	BJU	To increase South Carolina's domestic solar energy production by prolonging the tax incentives offered by Act 236.
59	Ryan Parimi	BJU	To incentivize teachers to serve in South Carolina's underserved public schools ranked "below average" or "unsatisfactory."
61	Sarah Rumpf	BJU	To improve the foster care system in South Carolina by increasing the monthly income of foster care families.
63	Hayley Flower	Clemson	To allow spouses to be able to better seek justice for sexual battery.
66	Jordan H. Lester	Clemson	To have the South Carolina Youth Smoking Prevention Act include the prevention and reduction of e-cigarette and vape use by minors in its purpose.
67	Jasmine Robinson	Clemson	To increase the number of correctional officers currently employed in South Carolina.
69	Caroline Webb	Clemson	To provide funding for the expansion and improvement of South Carolina's public transportation system.
70	Macay Stephens	Clemson	To include vaping products in the Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990.
71	Shania Green	Clemson	To raise the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco in South Carolina to age 21.
73	Amanda Stevenson	Erskine	To consider improvements to the education of South Carolina students.
75	Mikayla Glenn & Amanda Stevenson	Erskine	To improve the well-being of children in South Carolina.

76	AnnaTaylor Hydrick	Erskine	To improve mental health care services in South Carolina.
78	Caroline Woolard	Erskine	To promote the health of students in South Carolina Public Schools.
79	Dylan Kelly	Erskine	To protect free speech in the state of South Carolina.
80	Heidi Elliott & Brooke Weathers	Erskine	To allow terminally ill patients to request physician-assisted death.
84	Imani Parks-Williams	Erskine	To protect the rights of death row inmates.
85	Leigh Pendergrass	Erskine	To create an emergency lane on all primary interstates in South Carolina.
86	Logan Franks & Hope Crenshaw	Erskine	To amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding chapter 32 to title 17 so as to enact the "Asset Forfeiture and Private Property Protection Act"
99	Rachel Bates	Erskine	To amend the Sexually Violent Predators Act.
100	Thomasena Thomas	CofC	To implement the South Carolina CTE program in all South Carolina high schools.
101	Brynn Smith	CofC	To eliminate the practice of corporal punishment as a means of discipline in public schools, and to provide an effective alternative behavior management model.
103	Alex Long	CCU	To increase voting participation in elections by eliminating the requirement to provide an excuse when requesting an absentee ballot.
104	Ben Anderson	CCU	To ensure the safety of first responders while responding to emergencies.
105	Bailey Gordon	CCU	To allow faculty to conceal carry on college campuses in South Carolina, and also to students if an educational course is provided, taken, and passed by the college or university.
107	Brett Richardson	CCU	To expand democratic participation by establishing automatic voter registration.
109	Joshua Brown	CCU	To limit jail time given to those who cannot pay child support.
110	Connie Patrick	CCU	To provide family leave for workers up to 12 weeks so they are able to bond with their newborn children.
112	Christian Snell	CCU	To provide safer roads during and after inclement weather.
113	David Goodson	CCU	To increase the salary of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor to bring them in line with their colleagues from other states.
114	Jimmy Lawler	CCU	To legalize the cultivation, licensed possession, and consumption of medical cannabis

117	Luckas Little	CCU	To require grocery stores and supermarkets to save expired goods for up to ten days after the “Sell-By” date in order to give them away free of charge.
119	Shadaisha Hamilton	CCU	To implement a monetary cap on bailable offenses in the state of South Carolina.
121	Cammie Wolfe	CCU	To simplify the process in which birth certificates are created.

Bill Numbers above correlate directly with the first page of the bill in this book.

Bill Book Published by Alexander Leasure on April 5, 2019.

Bills for Discussion

A Bill

**Presented by Bradley D Galbraith
The Citadel**

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Purpose: To amend the time window in which telemarketers are permitted to make phone calls in order to assist possible victims of predatory phone calls.

Whereas, In order to alleviate and deter possible malicious and fraudulent callers preying upon targeted markets; and,

Whereas, To make calls non-disruptive to any sort of daily routine; and,

Whereas, To hold telemarketing companies to a standard where they may only call South Carolinians during typical American working hours; and,

Whereas, Respectively shrink the time window in which possible predatory phone calls could potentially be made.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 37-21-30 as follows:
A telephone solicitor may not initiate, or cause to be initiated, a telephone solicitation at any time other than between ~~8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.~~ *9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.* local time at the consumer's location, unless the telephone solicitor has obtained the prior written consent of the consumer.

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:
A) 'Telephone solicitor' means a person who makes, or causes another person to make, a telephone solicitation.

Section III: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020, after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented by Briggs Smith
The Citadel**

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Purpose: To adjust noneconomic damage award limits of medical malpractice lawsuits in the state of South Carolina.

Whereas, Malpractice insurance premiums have substantial effects on the rising cost of healthcare; and,

Whereas, Patients may have to pay more for healthcare through higher insurance premiums and doctors’ fees as a result of rising malpractice insurance; and,

Whereas, Rising malpractice insurance premiums may result from improper noneconomic damage awards from medical malpractice lawsuits; and,

Whereas, Adjustment of noneconomic damage awards of medical malpractice lawsuits would partially relieve the burden of malpractice lawsuits on healthcare providers and healthcare institutions, while still allowing for protection of patients against medical malpractice.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 15-32-220 (A) as follows:

In an action on a medical malpractice claim when final judgment is rendered against a single health care provider, the limit of civil liability for noneconomic damages of the health care provider is limited to an amount ~~not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars~~ *that is equal to three times the claimant’s economic loss, to a maximum of three hundred fifty thousand dollars* for each claimant, regardless of the number of separate causes of action on which the claim is based, except as provided in subsection (E).

Section II: Amend Section 15-32-220 (B) as follows:

In an action on a medical malpractice claim when final judgment is rendered against a single health care institution, the limit of civil liability for noneconomic damages of the health care provider is limited to an amount ~~not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars~~ *that is equal to three times the claimant’s economic loss, to a maximum of three hundred fifty thousand dollars* for each claimant, regardless of the number of separate causes of action on which the claim is based, except as provided in subsection (E).

Section III: Amend Section 15-32-220 (C) as follows:

1 In an action on a medical malpractice claim when final judgment is rendered
2 against more than one health care institution, or more than one health care
3 provider, or any combination thereof, the limit of civil liability for noneconomic
4 damages for each health care institution and each health care provider is limited to
5 an amount ~~not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars~~ *that is equal to three*
6 *times the claimant's economic loss, to a maximum of three hundred fifty thousand*
7 *dollars* for each claimant, and the limit of civil liability for noneconomic damages
8 for all health care institutions and health care providers is limited to an amount
9 ~~not to exceed one million fifty thousand dollars~~ *dollars that is equal to three times*
10 *the claimant's economic loss, to a maximum of one million fifty thousand dollars*
11 *dollars* for each claimant, except as provided in subsection (E).

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14 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
15 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented by Grayson Gasque
The Citadel

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- Purpose:** To prohibit the use of seismic airgun testing for oil exploration off the coast of South Carolina.
- Whereas,** The extremely loud bursts of sound produced by seismic airguns can have damaging and disorienting effects on marine life, especially those that use sound to communicate such as whales and dolphins; and,
- Whereas,** The U.S. Department of Interior’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management concluded in an Environmental Impact Statement that about 138,000 marine animals in the Atlantic could be injured in some way by seismic testing; and,
- Whereas,** The same Environmental Impact Statement estimated that 13.6 million marine animals could have their migration, feeding, or other behavioral patterns disrupted by seismic testing; and,
- Whereas,** Fish eggs and larvae can also be killed by the intense sound; and,
- Whereas,** Coastal economies can be adversely effected by the testing as the aforementioned effects can cause a decline in the commercial fishing industry.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** A subsection (f) will be added to South Carolina State Code Section 48-43-810 to read “use seismic airgun testing for the purpose of locating petroleum deposits in waters of the Atlantic Ocean that fall within the territorial jurisdiction of South Carolina.”
- Section II:** For the purposes of this bill:
 A) ‘Seismic airgun testing’ shall be defined as: using a seismic airgun to shoot blasts of compressed air into the water for the purpose of locating buried petroleum deposits.
- Section V:** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2020, after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented by Will Jensen
The Citadel**

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Purpose: To limit the ability of employers to inquire, consider, or require the disclosure of previous criminal history of job applicants and employees.

Whereas, Statistical studies on convictions and imprisonment have shown a disparate impact on some racial and ethnic minority groups; and,

Whereas, Individuals who have committed crimes in the past are often not granted opportunity for employment, leaving them no choice but recidivism.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Add a new section 41-1-130 to South Carolina State Law that will read as follows:

“Inquiries concerning convictions and imprisonment which either do not relate reasonably to job duties or did not occur within the last ten years will not be considered justified by business necessity.”

Section II: Add a new subsection to section 41-1-130 that will read as follows:

“The following exceptions will apply to this section:

(a) Any current employee or applicant seeking or being considered for any position with the department who will or may have unsupervised access to children, vulnerable adults, or individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, positions conducting comprehensive assessments, financial eligibility determinations, licensing and certification activities, investigations, surveys, or case management; or for state positions otherwise required by federal law to meet employment standards;

(b) Individual providers who are paid by the state and providers who are paid by home care agencies to provide in-home services involving unsupervised access to persons with physical, mental, or developmental disabilities or mental illness, or to vulnerable adults.

(c) Individuals or businesses or organizations for the care, supervision, case management, or treatment of children, persons with developmental disabilities, or vulnerable adults.”

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Section III: For the purpose of this bill:

- A) Vulnerable adults will be defined as a person who is or may be for any reason unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.
- B) Reasonable relation to job duties implies a direct correlation between the crime committed and a listed and specific duty of the perspective job. In the case that an applicant or employee feels that his or her criminal history was improperly obtained or requested by an employer, he or she may appeal in a court of law in the same manner that a workplace discrimination case would be handled.

Section IV: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with section 41-1-130 are hereby repealed.

Section V: The provisions of this act are severable and should any part be declared unconstitutional, it shall not affect the remaining parts.

Section VI: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Samuel Little
The Citadel

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Purpose: To raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to twenty-one and to make this offense grounds for the revocation or suspension of a vendor’s beer and wine permit.

Whereas: According to the Center for Disease Control, tobacco is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States; and,

Whereas: Tobacco causes 480,000 deaths per year, or one in every five deaths; and,

Whereas: According to the National Institutes for Health, 90% of people who smoke start smoking before the age of eighteen, and 90% of the cigarettes provided to these minors are provided by people under the age of eighteen; and,

Whereas: The state mandates that alcohol, a product responsible for far fewer deaths than tobacco, be served only to those aged twenty-one or above; and,

Whereas: The current punishment for providing tobacco to a minor is insufficient to serve as a deterrent from the sale of tobacco products to minors.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Part (A) of Section 16-17-500 of the South Carolina Code of Laws shall be amended to read “It is unlawful for an individual to sell, furnish, give, distribute, purchase for, or provide a tobacco product or an alternative nicotine product to a minor under the age of twenty-one years.”

Section II: Part (D)(1) of Section 16-17-500 of the South Carolina Code of laws shall be amended to read “ which is open only to individuals who are twenty-one years of age or older; or”

Section III: Part (J) of Section 16-17-500 of the South Carolina Code of Laws shall be amended to read “(J) A violation of this section violates the terms and conditions of an establishment’s beer and wine permit and is grounds for revocation or suspension of a beer and wine permit.”

1 **Section V:** This act shall go into effect on January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
2 Assembly and signature of the Governor.

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**A Bill
Presented by Shane Lutz
The Citadel**

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Purpose: All sexual lifestyles need to be covered by the Health Education curriculum in the South Carolina Public School System for the betterment of those who live said lifestyles and those who would gain a proper understanding of others.

Whereas, In states where said lifestyles are not taught outside of sexually transmitted diseases there is a serious lack of cohesion between LGBTQ students and their heterosexual peers; and, according to the Gay, Straight, and Lesbian Education Network the presence of Gay and Straight Alliances differs between the 7 anti-LGBTQ and the other 43 states with 29.7% and 58.3% of high schools reporting GSAs in their schools respectively.

Whereas, LGBTQ youth are at a higher risk for substance abuse due to coping with possible harassment and discrimination for their sexual orientation or gender appearance; and, according to the United States Government’s website of youth.gov Lesbian and bisexual girls are 9.7 times more likely to smoke cigarettes than their heterosexual peers while 25% of gay men report binge drinking often.

Whereas, LGBTQ youth show a higher risk for Mental illness in correlation to the marginalization they face in life; and, according to the Center for Disease Control 29% of LGBTQ youth attempted suicide at least once compared to 6% of their heterosexual peers.

Whereas, LGBTQ youth face more volatile and dangerous relationships and dating encounters; and, The CDC reports that 18% of LGBTQ youth have experienced sexual dating violence and another 18% of LGBTQ youth experience forced sexual encounters at some point of their lives.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: The program of instruction provided for in this section can include a discussion of alternative sexual lifestyles to a heterosexual lifestyle.

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:
A) ‘Sexual Lifestyles’ shall be defined as: Any way of living for people who may identify as homosexual, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual

Section III: These programs may include substance abuse, sexual violence, mental illness such as depression, and sexually transmitted diseases.

1 **Section IV:** These programs should promote an understanding of the risks that face people of
2 not just the heterosexual lifestyle, such as but not limited to a higher risk of HIV
3 for anyone who identifies as homosexual.
4

5 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
6 Assembly and signature of the Governor.
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A Bill
Presented by Connor Thomas
The Citadel

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Purpose: To allow the right of a final vote on election day at the voter's polling place that would negate all earlier votes.

Whereas, Residents of South Carolina have until four days before an election to submit their absentee ballot by mail; and,

Whereas, Twenty-three million Americans submit their votes through early voting or absentee ballot; and,

Whereas, New information is often released just days before an election that could alter one's opinion of the candidate; and,

Whereas, This would ensure all voters have the same amount of information on candidates before voting.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Absentee voters noted on registration lists; voting by persons who have been issued absentee ballots.

Prior to the distribution of voter registration lists to the various precincts, the county board of voter registration and elections shall note opposite the name of each registered voter who has voted by absentee ballot the fact of such voting or that an absentee ballot has been issued to a voter, as the case may be.

~~No voter whose name is so marked on the registration list as having voted shall be permitted to vote in person in his resident precinct and no voter who has been issued an absentee ballot may vote whether such ballot has been cast or not, unless he shall furnish to the officials of his resident precinct a certificate from the county board of voter registration and elections that his absentee ballot has been returned to the board unmarked. Any voter whose name is so marked on the registration list as having voted shall have their absentee vote annulled and replaced by their vote placed on election day.~~

Should any voter be issued an absentee ballot after the board has released the registration books to be used in the election to the county board of voter registration and elections, municipal election commission, county committee, executive committee of any municipal party, or poll managers, the board of voter

1 registration and elections shall immediately notify in writing the county board of
2 voter registration and elections, municipal election commission, county
3 committee, executive committee of any municipal party, or poll manager, as the
4 case may be, of the name, address, and certificate number of each voter who has
5 since been issued an absentee ballot and the registration books must be
6 appropriately marked that the voter has been issued an absentee ballot.
7

8 **Section II:** Amend Title 7, Chapter 13 of the South Carolina Code of laws by adding an
9 Article 10 entitled “Right to a Final Vote” which states the following:

10
11 Before his or her vote is counted in 54 an election any voter who has voted by
12 absentee ballot or other early voting procedure shall have the right to cast a ballot
13 on election day that would negate such earlier vote.
14

15 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage of the General
16 Assembly and signature of the Governor

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**An Amendment
Presented by Precious McLaughlin
Francis Marion University**

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Purpose: To abolish the death penalty in the state of South Carolina.

Whereas, The criminal justice system is not infallible and death is irrevocable.

Whereas, According to Jon B. Gould, leading scholar on wrongful convictions, the criminal justice system has about a 3% error. This means that of the 2,817 people on death row, 85 of them are innocent and will be put to death for crimes that they did not commit.

Whereas, The FBI’s 2016 Crime Report showed that the South had the highest homicide rate, yet accounts for 80% of executions, thus showing that the death penalty is not a deterrent of crime.

Whereas, Capital punishment is costlier than life without parole. For example, in the state of Texas one death penalty case costs approximately \$2.3 million, which is about three times more than the cost of imprisoning someone in a single cell at the highest security for 40 years.

Whereas, The death penalty is used arbitrarily and disproportionately based upon race, socioeconomic status and crime circumstances. There are currently 30 states with the death penalty and 20 without it, which means that the same exact crime has gravely different consequences depending upon where the crime was committed, raising serious constitutional concerns.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Section [16-3-20](#) of the 1976 Code is amended to remove all mention of capital punishment to read:

(A) A person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to murder must be punished by ~~death, or by~~ a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for thirty years to life. ~~If the State seeks the death penalty and a statutory aggravating circumstance is found beyond a reasonable doubt pursuant to subsections (B) and (C), and a recommendation of death is not made, the trial judge must impose a sentence of life imprisonment.~~ For purposes of this section, 'life' or 'life imprisonment' means until death of the offender without the possibility of parole, and when requested by the State or the defendant, the judge must charge the jury in his instructions that life imprisonment means until the death of the defendant without the possibility of parole. In cases where the defendant is eligible for parole, the judge must charge the applicable parole eligibility statute. No person sentenced to life imprisonment pursuant to this section is eligible for parole, community

1 supervision, or any early release program, nor is the person eligible to receive any
2 work credits, education credits, good conduct credits, or any other credits that
3 would reduce the mandatory life imprisonment required by this section. No
4 person sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for thirty years
5 to life pursuant to this section is eligible for parole or any early release program,
6 nor is the person eligible to receive any work credits, education credits, good
7 conduct credits, or any other credits that would reduce the mandatory minimum
8 term of imprisonment for thirty years to life required by this section. ~~Under no
9 circumstances may a female who is pregnant be executed so long as she is
10 pregnant or for a period of at least nine months after she is no longer pregnant.
11 When the Governor commutes a sentence of death to life imprisonment under the
12 provisions of Section 14, Article IV of the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895,
13 the commuttee is not eligible for parole, community supervision, or any early
14 release program, nor is the person eligible to receive any work credits, good
15 conduct credits, education credits, or any other credits that would reduce the
16 mandatory imprisonment required by this subsection.~~

17 (B) ~~When the State seeks the death penalty, upon conviction or adjudication of
18 guilt of a defendant of murder, the court shall conduct a separate sentencing
19 proceeding. In the proceeding, if a statutory aggravating circumstance is found,
20 the defendant must be sentenced to either death or life imprisonment. If no
21 statutory aggravating circumstance is found, the defendant must be sentenced to
22 either life imprisonment or a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for thirty
23 years to life. The proceeding must be conducted by the trial judge before the trial
24 jury as soon as practicable after the lapse of twenty four hours unless waived by
25 the defendant. If trial by jury has been waived by the defendant and the State, or if
26 the defendant pleaded guilty, the sentencing proceeding must be conducted before
27 the judge. In the sentencing proceeding, the jury or judge shall hear additional
28 evidence in extenuation, mitigation, or aggravation of the punishment. Only such
29 evidence in aggravation as the State has informed the defendant in writing before
30 the trial is admissible. This section must not be construed to authorize the
31 introduction of any evidence secured in violation of the Constitution of the United
32 States or the State of South Carolina or the applicable laws of either. The State,
33 the defendant, and his counsel are permitted to present arguments for or against
34 the sentence to be imposed. The defendant and his counsel shall have the closing
35 argument regarding the sentence to be imposed.~~

36 (C) ~~The judge shall consider, or he shall include in his instructions to the jury
37 for it to consider, mitigating circumstances otherwise authorized or allowed by
38 law and the following statutory aggravating and mitigating circumstances which
39 may be supported by the evidence:~~

40 (a) ~~Statutory aggravating circumstances:~~

41 (1) ~~The murder was committed while in the commission of the following crimes
42 or acts:~~

- 1 (a) criminal sexual conduct in any degree;
- 2 (b) kidnapping;
- 3 (c) trafficking in persons;
- 4 (d) burglary in any degree;
- 5 (e) robbery while armed with a deadly weapon;
- 6 (f) larceny with use of a deadly weapon;
- 7 (g) killing by poison;
- 8 (h) drug trafficking as defined in Section ~~44-53-370(e)~~, ~~44-53-375(B)~~, ~~44-53-~~
9 ~~440~~, or ~~44-53-445~~;
- 10 (i) physical torture;
- 11 (j) ~~dismemberment of a person; or~~
- 12 (k) arson in the first degree as defined in Section ~~16-11-110(A)~~.
- 13 (2) ~~The murder was committed by a person with a prior conviction for murder.~~
- 14 (3) ~~The offender by his act of murder knowingly created a great risk of death to~~
15 ~~more than one person in a public place by means of a weapon or device which~~
16 ~~normally would be hazardous to the lives of more than one person.~~
- 17 (4) ~~The offender committed the murder for himself or another for the purpose of~~
18 ~~receiving money or a thing of monetary value.~~
- 19 (5) ~~The murder of a judicial officer, former judicial officer, solicitor, former~~
20 ~~solicitor, or other officer of the court during or because of the exercise of his~~
21 ~~official duty.~~
- 22 (6) ~~The offender caused or directed another to commit murder or committed~~
23 ~~murder as an agent or employee of another person.~~
- 24 (7) ~~The murder of a federal, state, or local law enforcement officer or former~~
25 ~~federal, state, or local law enforcement officer, peace officer or former peace~~
26 ~~officer, corrections officer or former corrections officer, including a county or~~
27 ~~municipal corrections officer or a former county or municipal corrections officer,~~
28 ~~a county or municipal detention facility employee or former county or municipal~~
29 ~~detention facility employee, or fireman or former fireman during or because of the~~
30 ~~performance of his official duties.~~

- 1 ~~(8) The murder of a family member of an official listed in subitems (5) and (7)~~
2 ~~above with the intent to impede or retaliate against the official. 'Family member'~~
3 ~~means a spouse, parent, brother, sister, child, or person to whom the official~~
4 ~~stands in the place of a parent or a person living in the official's household and~~
5 ~~related to him by blood or marriage.~~
- 6 ~~(9) Two or more persons were murdered by the defendant by one act or~~
7 ~~pursuant to one scheme or course of conduct.~~
- 8 ~~(10) The murder of a child eleven years of age or under.~~
- 9 ~~(11) The murder of a witness or potential witness committed at any time during~~
10 ~~the criminal process for the purpose of impeding or deterring prosecution of any~~
11 ~~crime.~~
- 12 ~~(12) The murder was committed by a person deemed a sexually violent predator~~
13 ~~pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 48, Title 44, or a person deemed a sexually~~
14 ~~violent predator who is released pursuant to Section [44-48-120](#).~~
- 15 ~~(b) Mitigating circumstances:~~
- 16 ~~(1) The defendant has no significant history of prior criminal conviction~~
17 ~~involving the use of violence against another person.~~
- 18 ~~(2) The murder was committed while the defendant was under the influence of~~
19 ~~mental or emotional disturbance.~~
- 20 ~~(3) The victim was a participant in the defendant's conduct or consented to the~~
21 ~~act.~~
- 22 ~~(4) The defendant was an accomplice in the murder committed by another~~
23 ~~person and his participation was relatively minor.~~
- 24 ~~(5) The defendant acted under duress or under the domination of another person.~~
- 25 ~~(6) The capacity of the defendant to appreciate the criminality of his conduct or~~
26 ~~to conform his conduct to the requirements of law was substantially impaired.~~
- 27 ~~(7) The age or mentality of the defendant at the time of the crime.~~
- 28 ~~(8) The defendant was provoked by the victim into committing the murder.~~
- 29 ~~(9) The defendant was below the age of eighteen at the time of the crime.~~
- 30 ~~(10) The defendant had mental retardation at the time of the crime. 'Mental~~
31 ~~retardation' means significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning~~

1 ~~existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the~~
2 ~~developmental period.~~

3 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect immediately upon passage by the General Assembly
4 and signature by the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented by Aaron Simmons
Francis Marion University

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Purpose: To raise the awareness about mental health amongst adolescents.

Whereas, Mental illnesses are not taken as serious as a physical illness due to the lack of knowledge concerning mental health.

Whereas, Making it mandatory for schools to have students participates in a mental health awareness programs will help students become more proactive when it comes to the their mental health.

Whereas, Having students learn about mental illnesses will help to destigmatize mental health and teach students healthy ways to deal with their emotions, rather than relying on negative coping mechanisms like drinking and smoking.

Therefore, be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Section 59-32-30 subsection A-2, currently reads,

-

(2) Beginning with the 1988-1989 school year, for grades six through eight, instruction in comprehensive health must include the following subjects: community health, consumer health, environmental health, growth and development, nutritional health, personal health, prevention and control of diseases and disorders, safety and accident prevention, substance use and abuse, dental health, mental and emotional health, and reproductive health education. Sexually transmitted diseases are to be included as a part of instruction. At the discretion of the local board, instruction in family life education or pregnancy prevention education or both may be included, but instruction in these subjects may not include an explanation of the methods of contraception before the sixth grade. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, for grades six through eight, instruction in comprehensive health education also must include the subject of domestic violence.

Section II: Add subsection A-2 Section 59-32-30 to read

(A-2) Requirements for instruction in mental health are:

1. One week out of the school year be dedicated to the awareness of mental health
2. Each day of the school week should have at least an hour dedicated to instructions
3. Instructions should include but are not limited to:
 - o Informing of mental health and mental illnesses
 - o Learning healthy coping mechanisms

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- Learning ways to communicate with school officials and parents

Section V: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor

**An Amendment
 Presented by Tyrell M. Rowell
 Francis Marion University**

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Purpose: To change part of the statute of the SC Stand Your Ground Law.

Whereas, This law currently allows for the use of force (even to the extent of deadly force) when one is under attack.

Whereas, It can be considered extraneous to use deadly force during an attack where the attacker uses minimal force.

Whereas, Reasonable force should be used in confrontations or altercations where the SC Stand Your Ground can be adequately applied.

Whereas, In doing so, the individual should have a duty to retreat after the imminent danger has ceased.

Whereas, The current statute in the SC Stand Your Ground Law states the following:

S.C. Code Section 16-11-440(C) provides that:
 [a] person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity and who is attacked in another place where he has a right to be, including, but not limited to, his place of business, has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his ground and meet force with force, including deadly force, if he reasonably believes it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily injury to himself or another person or to prevent the commission of a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60.”

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: For the purposes of this bill:
 A) “Reasonable Force” shall be defined as: force that is used by the victim during the occurrence of an attack that is equally proportionate or greater than that which is used upon them by the attacker based on certain circumstances (i.e., size or strength comparison, age).

1 **Section II:** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2020 immediately upon passage
2 by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Miguel A Velert and Alexis Evans
Francis Marion University

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- Purpose:** To provide adequate compensation for state employees and students of higher education while traveling in an official capacity out of state in regards to the institution.

- Whereas,** students are considered state employees when traveling for College or University affairs; and,

- Whereas,** out of state per-diem from here on shall be defined as the daily allowance a state employee or a higher education student receives when traveling out of state for work or school related affairs; and,

- Whereas,** cost of living is the increase in cost of leading a comfortable life; and,

- Whereas,** inflation is the purchasing power that the U.S. dollar has kept or lost throughout the years; and,

- Whereas,** the South Carolina state per diem rate has remained at thirty two dollars per day for over twenty years; and,

- Whereas,** the cost of living according the Social Security Administration has increased by 38.2% or almost 2% annually since 1999; and,

- Whereas,** inflation has increased every day as well; and,

- Whereas,** this means what would cost you thirty-two dollars in 1999 would cost you forty-eight dollars in 2018; and,

- Whereas,** the purchasing power of the US Dollar has decreased in the past 20 years; and,

- Whereas,** necessary items for travel such as meals and incidentals have increased in value; and,

- Whereas,** when traveling out of the country, the exchange rate gives us a significantly lower return due to the value of the dollar decreasing in relation to other currency; and,

- Whereas,** federal organizations operating in South Carolina allow for fifty-one dollars per day for out of state per diem; and,

- Whereas,** changing the per diem rate from thirty two dollars to fifty one dollars per day for all institutions will give all agencies equal Per Diem; and,

1 **Whereas,** this is an issue that affects students and state employees alike, and a change to the
2 current model will be beneficial all around; and,
3

4 **Whereas,** a minimum fifty-one dollars per day for meals and incidentals would make it
5 more conceivable for students and state employees to travel on behalf of their
6 institution.
7

8 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
9 assembled the following:
10

11 **Section I:** Let it be added to the South Carolina Code of Laws Title 8-11-961 to set a
12 minimum state wide per diem for out of state travel in official capacity; by state
13 employees and students of higher education, of fifty-one dollars for meals and
14 incidentals.
15

16 **Section I:** For the purposes of this bill, the following terms are defined as follows:
17

18 A) **Out of state:** Any travel by state employees and students to a destination not
19 within the state of South Carolina.
20

21 B) **Per Diem:** Daily allotted funds provided by the state institution for meals and
22 incidentals.
23

24 **Section II:** Institutions of higher education and state agencies will abide by travel regulations
25 as determined by the Budget Control Board, with a per diem of fifty-one dollars
26 per day as the minimum for meals and incidentals.
27

28
29 **Section III:** Institutions of higher education will be responsible for funding the per diem
30 increase, for employees and students traveling in official capacity.
31

32 **Section IV:** State agencies must request the additional funds from the Federal Government, if
33 the request denied, funds must be provided by the South Carolina surplus.
34

35 **Section V:** This bill shall go into effect on January 1 2020, after passage by the General
36 Assembly and signature of the governor.
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A Bill
Presented by Emoni Gerald
Francis Marion University

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Purpose: TO AMEND SECTION 53-5-10 IN CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 53 IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS.

Whereas, To honour the lives of the soldiers, families, and societies of which were impacted during the Civil War and thereafter; and

Whereas, The people of South Carolina witnessed bear arms against brother ; and,

Whereas, Families from the length and breadth of South Carolina lost sons and received them for burial; and,

Whereas, The societies of South Carolina was prepared in mind and resources to meet the will for succession.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Strike “Confederate Memorial Day” from the South Carolina Code of Laws section 53-5-10 to be amended to read “Civil War Memorial Day”.

Section III: Description of Amendment

The indicated portion of **SECTION 53-5-10 IN CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 53** shall be removed and replaced with “Civil War Memorial Day”:

The first day of January-New Year's Day, the third Monday of January-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the third Monday in February-George Washington's birthday/President's Day, the tenth day of May-~~Confederate Memorial Day~~, the last Monday of May-National Memorial Day, the fourth day of July-Independence Day, the first Monday in September-Labor Day, the eleventh day of November-Veterans Day, National Thanksgiving Day and the day after, and the twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, and twenty-sixth days of December in each year are legal holidays.

Section IV: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Emoni Gerald
Francis Marion University

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Purpose: To engage more people of the State of South Carolina in the voting process.

Whereas, The United States Census Bureau measures the population of South Carolina at five million eighty-four thousand one hundred twenty-seven people as of July 1, 2018 ; and,

Whereas, The South Carolina State Election Commision measures the number of South Carolina residents who were registered to vote in general statewide elections preceding 2018 at less than three million ; and,

Whereas, The South Carolina State Election Commision measures the number of South Carolina residents who voted in the general statewide election of 2018 at one million seven hundred ten thousand eight hundred fifty eight.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill “ID” shall mean identification cards and driver’s licenses issued by a South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

Section II: 7-9-20 of the 1976 Code provides that: A person, upon issue of a South Carolina state identification card, including either an ID, or Driver’s License, shall be considered registered to vote.

Section III: For purposes of voter registration it shall be mandatory that all South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide the appropriate Election Commision with a report of all persons issued an ID.

Section IV: When registered persons are not eligible to vote in such cases as the recipient has not reached voting age the Department of Motor Vehicles shall indicate on the ID when the recipient shall be eligible to vote. If the recipient is not eligible in such cases as the recipient has lost or forfeited the right to vote the Department of Motor Vehicles shall indicate as such.

Section V: This bill will go into effect immediately after passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Stephen-Thomas Tyler Moore
Francis Marion University

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- 5 **Purpose:** Place a ban on “overly squatted” trucks in the state of South Carolina.
6
- 7 **Whereas,** the term “overly squatted” meaning in which the front suspension of the vehicle is
8 over 1.5 inches higher than the height of the suspension of the rear.
9
- 10 **Whereas,** by enacting this bill vehicle owners if their vehicles do fall into the “overly
11 squatted” category they will be required to remove such suspension modifications
12 and change such modifications to meet acceptable criteria stated in the law
13
- 14 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
15 assembled the following:
16
- 17 **Section I:** **That there be a total and permanent ban from highway use of any and all**
18 **vehicles that fall into the “overly squatted” category of suspension**
19 **modifications.**
20
- 21 **Section II:** For the purposes of this bill:
22 A) The term “Overly Squatted” refers to suspension modifications under no load,
23 that puts the front suspension of a vehicle 1.5 inches higher than the height of
24 the rear suspension of the vehicle.
25 B) The term “No Load” refers to a vehicle having nothing attached to the vehicle
26 to push down on the rear suspension, such as trailers of any type, boats, or
27 other vehicles, only the weight of the vehicle should be present in this
28 measurement of suspension height.
29
- 30 **Section III:** This bill is to be enacted to decrease the readily present safety hazard on the
31 roadways of South Carolina.
32
 - Hazards being:
33
 - Headlights of vehicles blinding drivers in the oncoming lane
34
 - With this happening drivers cannot see the road in front
35 of them nor what lies ahead in that lane
 - This leading to increased risk of single and multiple car
36 collisions
37
38
- 39 **Section IV:** **Failure to abide by this law as stated previously, can and will result in any**
40 **form of Law enforcement in the State of South Carolina, (South Carolina**
41 **State Trooper, County Sheriffs Departments, City Police Officers, as well as,**
42 **South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) game wardens),**
43 **to pull over and ticket vehicles in violation with the suspension height limits**
44 **(on a three strike system, being two minor tickets set at \$50 with 2 points**
45 **deducted from the drivers’ license and a written understanding from the**
46 **vehicle owner that the suspension modifications must be changed to fit**

1 **regulations, the third time the vehicle is pulled for the same offense the**
2 **vehicle is to be impounded, until the owner gives a written statement saying**
3 **that him/her will make the changes and proof that they have been corrected**
4 **before the vehicle is put on the road for normal use again.**

5
6 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect with a grace period of 8 months for drivers to make
7 the necessary changes after this period law enforcement officials have the
8 authority to start issuing citations.
9
10

A Bill
Presented By Hunter Popkin
Presbyterian College

Purpose: To make the panic defense for crimes against people who have non traditional sexual orientation or gender identity unusable

Whereas, The “gay” panic defense is used when a person is found guilty of a violent crime against transgender people and members of the LGBTQ+ community to help alleviate their sentence.

Whereas, There are three ways this defense is used

1. Defense of insanity- where the defendant claims the alleged sexual proposition triggered a mental breakdown or a “panic” which resulted in the bodily harm or death of the victim.
2. Defense of provocation- this allows a defendant to argue that victim’s proposition was so provocative it induced the defendant to kill the victim
3. Defense of self defense- the defendant claims that based on the victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity the victim intended to do bodily harm to them.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Restrict the plea of insanity from affliction of gay panic by amending section 17-24-20 through the addition of subsection (E) which says “The defendant cannot claim that the sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim had any effect on their mental state at the time of the crime.”

Section II: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

1 **A Bill**
2 **Presented By Hunter Popkin**
3 **Presbyterian College**
4

5 **Purpose:** To provide asset protection to citizens not convicted of a crime.
6

7 **Whereas,** Law enforcement in South Carolina have the ability to seize the property of citizens
8 not convicted of a crime, not connected to a crime, or happen to be in the vicinity of a crime.
9

10 **Whereas,** The burden of proof is not on the state but on the affected citizen to prove the
11 seized property is their own.
12

13 **Whereas,** This requires legal action on the part of the citizen which can cost more than the
14 assets seized.
15

16 **Whereas,** The combined monetary value of the assets and property seized by South Carolina
17 law enforcement was \$17 million and 1/5 of this was seized from citizens never convicted of a
18 crime.
19

20 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here
21 assembled the following:
22

23 **Section I:** Add section 32 to title 17 of the state code of laws to state “Those unconvicted of
24 the current crime that led to their involvement with law enforcement shall not have their personal
25 property, assets, or any possession that would affect their current standard of living taken by any
26 law enforcement officer at any representative of a law enforcement officer.”
27

28 **Section II:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly
29 and the signature of the Governor.
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A Bill

**Presented by Pierce M Hammen
Charleston Southern University**

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Purpose: To transition the state of South Carolina to a power source that will be safer, cheaper, and more self-sustaining than the current green initiatives.

Whereas, The 2016 South Carolina State Energy Plan recognizes the need for the state to possess a "reliable, resilient, and clean energy system"; and,

Whereas, Nuclear energy has been proven to provide the best energy output for the lowest cost and space requirements, as extrapolated over time; and,

Whereas, Use of nuclear energy rather than other renewable sources (such as wind or solar) has been proven to lower the carbon footprint of a community, as well as leaving less toxic, non-bio-degradable waste products; and,

Whereas, Current usage of resources such as solar panels and wind turbines shall have provably negative effects on the environment and world health within the next 50 years on an order of magnitude much greater than any temporary benefits they may currently be providing; and,

Whereas, Certain renewable resources, namely wind turbines, have been proven to be the cause of the increased rate in the death of threatened and endangered birds such as hawks, eagles, and owls; and,

Whereas, The amount of land that must be cleared and transformed to operate wind and solar farms very commonly displaces threatened or endangered native species.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: This bill may be known as the "True Renewable Energy Initiative"

Section II: Any grant, loan, or tax incentives eligible to corporations, organizations or commissions with the intent of increasing the state of South Carolina's energy independence shall be made available to corporations or organizations wishing to forward the growth of nuclear power in South Carolina.

1 **Section III:** Any state funds currently allocated to the development of renewable energy shall
2 be re-allocated to the development of nuclear power plants to supply the energy
3 needs of South Carolina.
4

5 **Section IV:** In order to assure the most efficient distribution of the funds re-allocated in
6 Section III, a committee shall be formed with the stated purpose of easing the
7 state's transition from "renewable" fuels to nuclear power. The committee may be
8 known as the "Nuclear Power Oversight Committee"
9

10 **Section V:** In addition to the duties mentioned in Section IV, the Nuclear Power Oversight
11 Committee shall also be responsible for creating and maintaining a website for the
12 education of the public on the new initiative. This website should have, at
13 minimum, an explanation of the product, the stated mission statement of the
14 committee, materials that educate the public on the greater efficiency and safety
15 of nuclear power over "renewable" sources, and links to any relevant scientific
16 materials.
17

18 **Section VI:** This bill shall not be applied to previous government spending, except where it
19 intercepts a project in its initial, easily reversible stages.
20

21 **Section VII:** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly
22 and the signature of the Governor.
23
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A Bill
Presented By Luke Maybin
Charleston Southern University

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Purpose: To support the increase of defense in the state of South Carolina.

Whereas, The State Guard is indispensable for the protection of the of citizens and the state’s public good; and,

Whereas, the State Guard is a key component in the protection of the state’s reserved independence of threats; and,

Whereas, As authorized by SC Code of Laws Section 25-3-10, the State Guard is a professional military organization and component of the South Carolina Military Department; and,

Whereas, The State Militia is historical to the protection of interests and common welfare of South Carolina citizens, and it must be upheld for future sanctuary of the state.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session, here assembled the following:

Section I: The South Carolina State Guard shall:

1. Increase general personnel of the State Guard by up to 15%.
2. Apply proper revision and updates to the State Guard, and all related functionalities, military equipment, and implements.

Section II: Under this legislation, the South Carolina Naval Militia (SCNM) shall:

1. Commission and maintain a central naval base on the South Carolina coast.
2. Increase general personal as deemed necessary.
3. Modify, revise, and/or update all active equipment and/or implements of naval defense.
4. Expand the quantity of active (SCNM) vessels as deemed necessary.

Section III: This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Michael Kelly
Charleston Southern University

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Purpose: To improve security in South Carolina.

Whereas, South Carolina has an immigration problem; and,

Whereas, South Carolina has passed laws related to immigration in the past; and,

Whereas, It's the duty of the government to ensure the safety of its citizens.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Add Section 8-15-100 to Title 8 Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to read "It will be in the power of local governments to remove unwanted persons from the state of South Carolina".

Section II: This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Zach Pace
Charleston Southern University

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- Purpose:** To increase county unity in South Carolina.
- Whereas,** The unity of counties in the event of natural disasters or other state emergencies would be beneficial; and,
- Whereas,** Representatives from each county would be able to organize and deploy efforts of relief; and,
- Whereas,** The formation of a council would allow for better communication between counties; and,
- Whereas,** The ability for specific county representatives to meet in larger forums and in the state legislature itself would allow for more unity in the state and a more thorough understanding of the more urgent needs of South Carolina state citizens.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** South Carolina will create a new civilian council consisting of one representative per county.
- Section II:** This civilian council will meet once a year in a summit in the State House to collaborate on the needs of their constituents.
- Section III:** These county representatives shall also serve as ex-officio members of the South Carolina House of Representatives; they shall retain the right to speak on the floor, but not to vote or present legislation.
- Section IV:** The new civilian council representatives will be chosen by county specific elections once every 3 years.
- Section V:** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Robert Banks
Charleston Southern University

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- Purpose:** To encourage the growth of trade.
- Whereas,** The rise in tariffs in 2018 caused South Carolina export numbers to drop for the first time in years; and,
- Whereas,** A summit based in the state bi-annually for foreign trade investors and foreign traders would stimulate the South Carolina economy.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session, here assembled the following:
- Section I:** A state sponsored summit shall be held once every other year in the South Carolina Low Country for the professional discussion and celebration of international trade.
- Section II:** The South Carolina Coordinating Council for Economic Development shall be responsible for overseeing and coordinating the summit.
- Section III:** The budget for the summit shall be set every two years by the state legislature.
- Section IV:** The first summit shall be held no later than the year 2022.
- Section V:** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
By Anna Weeks
Charleston Southern University

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Purpose: To create a healthier South Carolina.

Whereas, South Carolina has a 32.3% obesity rate; and,

Whereas, South Carolina has the 12th highest obesity ranking in the country; and,

Whereas, Exercise reduces the risk of coronary heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, and related medical illness; and,

Whereas, According to a recent study by the University of Oregon, women that participate in self-defense training are 50-60% less likely to be assaulted; and,

Whereas, It is critical that South Carolina’s population remain safe and have the basic ability to defend themselves.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session, here assembled the following:

Section I: Add the following to Section 59-10-10 to the South Carolina Code of Laws:

- (E) 1. Female students from 9th-12th grade shall be encouraged to reach the following standard:
 - a. Run 1.5 miles in 15 minutes or less
 - b. Do twenty-five pushups
 - c. Perform 10 pull-ups
 - d. Do 55 sit-ups
- 2. Male students in 9th-12th grade shall be encouraged to reach the following standard:
 - a. Run 1.5 miles in 10 minutes or less
 - b. Do 50 pushups
 - c. Perform 15 pull-ups
 - d. Do 60 sit-ups
- 3. Male and Female students in 9th-12th grade will be required to take self-defense training unless exempted by waiver as outlined in Section 59-29-80 (B).
 - a. Self-defense seminars will be taught by physical education teachers.
 - b. Students shall be taught the following:

- 1 Defensive Stance
- 2 Evasive Step
- 3 Horse Stance
- 4 Knee Kick
- 5 Front Kick
- 6 Side Kick
- 7 Back Kick
- 8 Front and Reverse Punches
- 9 Heel-of-Palm Strike
- 10 Back Fist Strike
- 11 Elbow Strikes
- 12 Wrist Releases From Single, Double, and Two-Handed Grabs
- 13 Rear Bear Hug Release
- 14 Rear Bear Hug Release II
- 15 Front Bear Hug Release
- 16 Full Nelson Release I
- 17 Full Nelson Release II
- 18 Head Hold Release
- 19 Front Choke Release
- 20 Rear Choke Release

- 21
- 22 4. Students should also be able to understand the basic psychology of self-
- 23 defense.
- 24
- 25 5. Students should also be able to recognize dangerous situations and when
- 26 it is appropriate to engage in self-defense.
- 27

28 **Section II:** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2020 upon the passage by the General
29 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.
30

A Bill
Presented By Aryn Akerberg
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To improve the accountability of judges in South Carolina.

Whereas, South Carolina is one of two states where legislative election of judiciary officials is still used; and,

Whereas, the process of legislative election produces distrust of elected officials among the public; and,

Whereas, twenty-one states currently have incorporated judicial retention elections to reduce distrust and to involve the public; and,

Whereas, retention elections would allow for the involvement of the public through general elections; and,

Whereas, retention elections would allow the legislature to still be primarily involved in deciding judiciary officials; and,

Whereas, retention elections would eliminate political bias within the legislature and within the merit committee; and,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Add **section 2-19-130** to create:

Retention Elections for South Carolina judges.

Section II: Retention Elections shall be held for:

(a) South Carolina Supreme Court
 (b) South Carolina Court of Appeals

Section III: Retention Elections shall be held within two-three years after the judge’s term has begun to fall when the South Carolina Legislature is in session.

Section IV: Retention Elections will be as follows:

(a) Shall be a general election open to all registered voters.
 (b) The ballot will only say “Judge _____ shall finish their term” and voters will either agree or disagree with the statement.
 (c) If a majority vote agrees with the statement, then the Judge shall finish their term to the end.
 (d) If a majority vote disagrees with the statement, then the Judge shall immediately be removed from their position.

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Section V: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented By Carson McQuaid
Bob Jones University**

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Purpose: To amend South Carolina immunization requirements for homeschooled children

Whereas, The vaccination requirements for homeschooled children are not at the standard of South Carolina public school children; and

Whereas, As of 2015, 21,532 of them were in South Carolina; and

Whereas, The number of unvaccinated children is rising; and

Whereas, There were 17 measles outbreaks in the United States last year, including 5 cases of measles to unvaccinated children in South Carolina; and

Whereas, 15 other states already require homeschooled children to be vaccinated including Kentucky, North Carolina and Tennessee; and

Whereas, Children will still be eligible for religious and medical exemptions; and

Whereas, Qualifying children are eligible for free vaccines; and

Whereas, Studies have shown the safety of vaccines and the rarity of side effects from vaccines.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill, the following terms shall be defined as:

Association for home school shall be defined as listed in the SC Code of Laws Section 59-65-47.

Director of an association for home school shall be defined as the responsible party for the overall operations of the association for home school.

Section II: Amend Section 44-29-180 as follows:

School pupils and day care center children to be vaccinated or immunized; department to monitor immunization records of children in day care *and associations for home schools*; exemptions and exclusions.

(A) No superintendent of an institution of learning, no school board or principal of a school, *no director of an association for home school* and no owner or operator of a public or private childcare facility as defined in Section 63-13-

1 20 may admit as a pupil or enroll or retain a child or person who cannot
2 produce satisfactory evidence of having been vaccinated or immunized so
3 often as directed by the Department of Health and Environmental Control.
4 Records of vaccinations or immunizations must be maintained by the
5 institution, school, *association for home school* or day care facility to which
6 the child or person has been admitted.
7

8 (B) The Department of Health and Environmental Control shall monitor the
9 immunization status of each child who is *a member of an association for*
10 *home school* or enrolled or retained in a licensed child day care facility or a
11 registered church or religious child day care facility. The monitoring of day
12 care facilities *and associations for home school* shall consist of a review of
13 the immunization or vaccination records to insure that required
14 immunizations are complete as recommended and routinely provided by the
15 Department of Health and Environmental Control for all infants and children.
16

17 (C) South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
18 Regulation 61-8, as amended, "Vaccination, Screening and Immunization
19 Regarding Contagious Diseases", and its exemptions apply to this section.
20

21 (D) A South Carolina Certificate of Special Exemption signed by the school
22 principal, authorized representative, *director of an association for home*
23 *school*, or day care director may be issued to transfer students while awaiting
24 arrival of medical records from their former area of residence or to other
25 students who have been unable to secure immunizations or documentation of
26 immunizations already received. A South Carolina Certificate of Special
27 Exemption may be issued only once and is valid for only thirty calendar days
28 from date of enrollment. At the expiration of this special exemption, the
29 student must present a valid South Carolina Certificate of Immunization, a
30 valid South Carolina Certificate of Medical Exemption, or a valid South
31 Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption.
32

33 (E) Registered family day care homes are exempt from requirements of this
34 section.
35

36 **Section III:** Associations for home school will be subject to a fee of \$1 for each child they
37 submit immunization or vaccination records. This money will be used by the
38 Department of Health and Environmental Control to aid in the processing of
39 immunization or vaccination records.
40

41 **Section IV:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020, upon passage by the General
42 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Reagan Musselman
Bob Jones University

Purpose: To increase South Carolina’s domestic solar energy production by prolonging the tax incentives offered by Act 236.

Whereas, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, SC is 58% dependent on Nuclear Energy alone. While all clean renewable resources combined accounted for only 3.4% of South Carolina’s energy needs; and

Whereas, the solar energy industry provides jobs for approximately 3,000 South Carolina citizens; and

Whereas, the tax incentives detailed by Act 236 are about to abruptly end thus punishing SC citizens who are contributing to the state’s rising solar energy industry; and

Whereas, South Carolina’s solar industry employment grew by 2% in 2017 when the trend overall of America decreased; and

Whereas, South Carolina is on track to achieve 4% retail solar energy by 2021 with the continuation of incentives; and

Whereas, In North Carolina 12.5 % of electric power generated by investor-owned utilities must be provided by renewable resources and energy efficiency measures. However, South Carolina’s cap is at 2% hindering solar development.

Therefore, be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) Domestic Solar Energy shall be defined as the energy produced by residential or non-industrial sources.

(2) Tax Incentives are defined as the tax credits available through Act 236 to those that invest in domestic solar systems.

Section II: Amend section 12-6-3587 (A) as follows:

(A) There is allowed as a tax credit against the income tax liability of a taxpayer imposed by this chapter an amount equal to twenty-five percent of the costs incurred by the taxpayer in the purchase and installation of a solar energy system, small hydropower system, or geothermal machinery and equipment for heating water, space heating, air cooling, energy-efficient daylighting, heat reclamation, energy-efficient demand response, or the generation of

1 electricity in or on a facility in South Carolina and owned by the taxpayer.
2 The tax credit allowed by this section must not be claimed before the
3 completion of the installation. The amount of the credit in any year may not
4 exceed three thousand five hundred dollars for each facility or fifty percent of
5 the taxpayer's tax liability for that taxable year, whichever is less. If the
6 amount of the credit exceeds three thousand five hundred dollars for each
7 facility, the taxpayer may carry forward the excess for up to ten years. *The tax*
8 *credit of twenty-five percent will decrease by 2.5% per year starting on*
9 *January 1, 2020, and thus expiring the tax credit on December 31, 2030.*

10
11 Amend Section 58-39-110 (C) as follows:

12 Any distributed energy resource program proposed by an electrical utility shall,
13 at a minimum, result in development by ~~2021~~ 2030 of renewable energy
14 facilities located in South Carolina in an aggregated amount of installed
15 nameplate generation capacity equal to at least ~~two~~ eight percent of the previous
16 five-year average of the electrical utility's South Carolina retail peak demand...

17
18 Amend Section 58-39-110 (F) as follows:

19
20 The authorization to propose or approve new components of DER programs shall
21 sunset and expire on January 1, ~~2021~~ 2030, provided however that the cost
22 recovery provisions of this chapter shall remain in force until the costs associated
23 with all approved DER program components have been recovered.

24
25 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020, upon passage by the General
26 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.
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**A Bill
Presented by Ryan Parimi
Bob Jones University**

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Purpose: To incentivize teachers to serve in South Carolina’s underserved public schools ranked “below average” or “unsatisfactory.”

Whereas, No state-sponsored public school teacher tuition reimbursement program exists in the South Carolina Code of Laws; and

Whereas, South Carolina teachers have no incentive to teach in underserved districts; and

Whereas, South Carolina is ranked 48th in the nation for education; and

Whereas, South Carolina has the highest median student loan debt; and

Whereas, The average student loan debt for college students in South Carolina increased faster than all but three states between 2004 and 2014; and

Whereas, Creating a state-sponsored teacher loan forgiveness program would relieve teachers’ student loan debt; and

Whereas, Creating a state-sponsored public school teacher tuition reimbursement program would incentivize qualified teachers to teach in underserved public schools.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) **Public School** shall be defined as it is in **SECTION 59-1-120**: a school operated by publicly elected or appointed school officials in which the program and activities are under the control of these officials and which is supported by public funds.

(2) **Below Average or Unsatisfactory** shall be defined as a school that receives an overall rating of “below average” or “unsatisfactory” in the South Carolina Department of Education’s yearly Report Card. If a school is rated “below average” or “unsatisfactory” for at least one year of a teacher’s service, but is not during subsequent years, the subsequent years of teaching at the school will still be counted toward the requirements.

(3) **Qualified teachers** shall be defined as those who have attained at least a bachelor’s degree and received certification from the state.

1 **Section II:** Title 59, Chapter 25 of the South Carolina Code of Laws is amended by adding
2 **SECTION 59-25-60:**

3
4 South Carolina teachers with student loan debt shall be rewarded financially for
5 teaching full-time in below average or unsatisfactory public schools within the
6 state of South Carolina. Qualified teachers are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 in
7 student loan reimbursement. Of the teacher's student loan debt as of the teacher's
8 first day of the first year of teaching:

9
10 (1) 10% or \$2,500, whichever is less, is received upon completion of one full
11 academic year of teaching,

12
13 (2) 15% or \$3,750, whichever is less, is received upon completion of two
14 consecutive full academic years of teaching,

15
16 (3) 20% or \$5,000, whichever is less, is received upon completion of three
17 consecutive full academic years of teaching,

18
19 (4) 25% or \$6,250, whichever is less, is received upon completion of four
20 consecutive full academic years of teaching,

21
22 (5) 30% or \$7,500, whichever is less, is received upon completion of five
23 consecutive full academic years of teaching.

24
25
26 **Section III:** Each year the General Assembly shall appropriate funds from the general fund, as
27 necessary, to fund the program described in this section.

28
29 **Section IV:** The South Carolina Department of Education shall promulgate regulations
30 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The department also shall
31 establish guidelines and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this
32 section and publish those guidelines and procedures on its website.

33
34 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020, upon passage by the General
35 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.
36

A Bill
Presented By Sarah Rumpf
Bob Jones University

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4
- 5 **Purpose:** To improve the foster care system in South Carolina by increasing the monthly
6 income of foster care families.
7
- 8 **Whereas,** since 2012, the number of foster care children has risen from 3,113 to 4,600 in
9 2017;
10
- 11 **Whereas,** the state needs an additional 1,600 foster care family homes to care for the
12 children; and
13
- 14 **Whereas,** since 2013, the number of foster care homes has declined by more than 650;
15
- 16 **Whereas,** South Carolina currently pays foster care families \$332-\$425 per month
17 depending on the age of the child; and
18
- 19 **Whereas,** South Carolina's neighboring state, North Carolina, pays families \$475-\$634
20 depending on the age of the child; and
21
- 22 **Whereas,** in 2013, 25% of children under 13 were placed in group homes and institutions. In
23 North Carolina, 3% were placed in group homes and institutions. The national
24 average is 4%; and
25
- 26 **Whereas,** since 2012, South Carolina has investigated 484 allegations of abuse and neglect
27 in group homes and institutions; and
28
- 29 **Whereas,** South Carolina has a \$177 million surplus which could be used to increase the pay
30 of foster care families; and
31
- 32 **Whereas,** South Carolina pays \$18/day versus the \$24/day national average.
33
- 34 **Therefore,** be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here
35 assembled the following:
36
- 37 **Section I:** For this bill, the following terms are defined as follows:
38
- 39 (A) "Foster Care System" refers to a temporary arrangement in which adults
40 provide for the care of a child or children whose birthparent is unable to care
41 for them. Foster care is not where juvenile delinquents go. It is where children
42 go when their parents cannot, for a variety of reasons, care for them.
43
- 44 (B) "Foster Care Families" refers to people who officially take a child into their
45 family for a period of time, without becoming the child's legal parents. The
46 child is referred to as their foster child.

1 (C) “Abuse and Neglect” refers to any recent act or failure to act on the part of a
2 parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional
3 harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or an act or failure to act, which presents
4 an imminent risk of serious harm.

5
6 (D) “Group homes” are an alternative to traditional in-home foster care for
7 children, in which children are housed in an intimate or home-like setting, in
8 which a number of unrelated children live for varying periods of time with a
9 single set of house parents, or with a rotating staff of trained caregivers.

10
11 **Section II:** Add Section **64-7-2410** to the South Carolina Code of Laws to read as follows:

12
13 Each South Carolina Foster Care Family shall receive \$24 per day per foster child
14 in their family. These funds shall be to provide for the foster child. These funds
15 shall be allocated from the Department of Social Services

16
17 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020, upon passage by the General
18 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented by Hayley Flower
Clemson University

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Purpose: To allow spouses to be able to better seek justice for sexual battery.

Whereas, Twenty-seven state’s offer the same punishments and circumstances of rape, for both spouses and people who are single; and,

Whereas, About fifty percent of women who are victims of domestic violence also report being victims of marital rape; and,

Whereas, South Carolina has been ranked in the top ten for the last twenty-one years for the highest rates of domestic violence; and,

Whereas, In 1993 marital rape became illegal in all fifty states; and,

Whereas, Fourteen percent of married women report being raped by their spouse; and,

Whereas, Eighteen percent of female victims of spousal rape say their children witnessed the crime; and,

Whereas, Over fifty percent of women raped by an intimate partner will be raped on multiple occasions.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I, For the purpose of this bill as found in Section 16-3-651,

(a) “Actor” means a person accused of spousal sexual battery.

(b) “Aggravated coercion” means that the actor threatens to use force or violence of a high and aggravated nature to overcome the victim or another person, if the victim reasonably believes that the actor has the present ability to carry out the threat, or threatens to retaliate in the future by the infliction of physical harm, kidnapping or extortion, under circumstances of aggravation, against the victim or any other person.

(c) “Aggravated force” means that the actor uses physical force or physical violence of a high and aggravated nature to overcome the victim or includes the threat of the use of a deadly weapon.

1 (d) “Intimate parts” includes the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or
 2 buttocks of a male or female human being and the breasts of a female human
 3 being.

4 (e) “Mentally defective” means that a person suffers from a mental disease or
 5 defect which renders the person temporarily or permanently incapable of
 6 appraising the nature of his or her conduct.

7 (f) “Mentally incapacitated” means that a person is rendered temporarily
 8 incapable of appraising or controlling his or her conduct whether this condition is
 9 produced by illness, defect, the influence of a substance or from some other cause.

10 (g) “Physically helpless” means that a person is unconscious, asleep, or for any
 11 other reason physically unable to communicate unwillingness to an act.

12 (h) “Sexual battery” means sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal
 13 intercourse, or any intrusion, however slight, of any part of a person’s body or of
 14 any object into the genital or anal openings of another person’s body, except when
 15 such intrusion is accomplished for medically recognized treatment or diagnostic
 16 purposes.

17 (i) “Victim” means the person alleging to have been subjected to spousal sexual
 18 battery.

19 (j) “Spouses” means two people of the same or opposite sex who are married in
 20 the eyes of the state including but limited to civil unions, common law marriages
 21 etc.

22
 23 **Section II,** To amend **SECTION 16-3-615.** Spousal sexual battery as follows:

24
 25 ~~(A) Sexual battery, as defined in Section 16-3-651(h), when accomplished through~~
 26 ~~use of aggravated force, defined as the use or the threat of use of a weapon or the use~~
 27 ~~or threat of use of physical force or physical violence of a high and aggravated nature,~~
 28 ~~by one spouse against the other spouse if they are living together, constitutes the~~
 29 ~~felony of spousal sexual battery and, upon conviction, a person must be imprisoned~~
 30 ~~not more than ten years.~~

31 ~~(B) The offending spouse’s conduct must be reported to appropriate law enforcement~~
 32 ~~authorities within thirty days in order for that spouse to be prosecuted for this offense.~~

33 (A) Spousal sexual battery in the first degree

34 (1) A person is guilty of spousal sexual battery in the first degree if the
 35 actor engages in sexual battery with the victim and if any one or more of
 36 the following circumstances are proven:

37 (a) The actor uses aggravated force to accomplish sexual battery.

38 (b) The victim submits to sexual battery by the actor under
 39 circumstances where the victim is also the victim of forcible
 40 confinement, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, robbery,

1 extortion, burglary, housebreaking, or any other similar offense or
2 act.

3 (c) The actor causes the victim, without the victim’s consent, to
4 become mentally incapacitated or physically helpless by
5 administering, distributing, dispensing, delivering, or causing to be
6 administered, distributed, dispensed, or delivered a controlled
7 substance, a controlled substance analogue, or any intoxicating
8 substance.

9 (2) Criminal sexual conduct in the first degree is a felony punishable by
10 imprisonment for not more than thirty years, according to the discretion of
11 the court.

12 (B) Spousal sexual battery in the second degree

13 (1) A person is guilty of spousal sexual battery in the second degree if the
14 actor uses aggravated coercion to accomplish sexual battery.

15 (2) Spousal sexual battery in the second degree is a felony punishable by
16 imprisonment for not more than twenty years according to the discretion
17 of the court.

18 (C) Spousal sexual battery in the third degree

19 (1) A person is guilty of spousal sexual battery in the third degree if the
20 actor engages in sexual battery with the victim and if any one or more of
21 the following circumstances are proven:

22 (a) The actor uses force or coercion to accomplish the sexual
23 battery in the absence of aggravating circumstances.

24 (b) The actor knows or has reason to know that the victim is
25 mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless
26 and aggravated force or aggravated coercion was not used to
27 accomplish sexual battery.

28 (2) Spousal sexual battery in the third degree is a felony punishable by
29 imprisonment for not more than ten years, according to the discretion of
30 the court.

31 ~~(C)~~ (D) The provisions of Section 16-3-659.1 apply to any trial brought under this
32 section.

33 ~~(D)~~ (E) This section is not applicable to a purported marriage entered into by a
34 male under the age of sixteen or a female under the age of fourteen.

35
36 **Section IV,** This bill will go into effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the
37 signature of the Governor.
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**An Amendment
Presented By Jordan H. Lester
Clemson University**

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- Purpose:** To have the South Carolina Youth Smoking Prevention Act include the prevention and reduction of e-cigarette and vape use by minors in its purpose.
- Whereas,** 40% of South Carolina School Districts do not have tobacco rules that cover e-cigarettes; and,
- Whereas,** E-cigarette use by middle and high school students has increased from .6% and 1.5%, respectively, in 2011 to 3.3% and 11.7% in 2017; and,
- Whereas,** In 2017, more than one in four high school seniors reported vaping in the last year, and 16.6% had vaped in the last month; and,
- Whereas,** E-cigarettes and vapes appeal to youth due to their appealing flavors and the false belief that they are a “safe alternative” to cigarettes; and,
- Whereas,** Many vapes and e-cigarettes contain more nicotine and other addictive chemicals than cigarettes themselves and can persuade youth to begin smoking at an early age; and,
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** To be added to Title 44: Chapter 128: Section 44-128-20.
- Section II:** The Department of Health and Environmental Control shall develop and implement a Youth Smoking Prevention Plan for the purpose of preventing and reducing cigarette smoking, along with e-cigarette and vape use.
- Section III:** This amendment will go into effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Jasmine Robinson
Clemson University

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- Purpose:** To increase the number of correctional officers currently employed in South Carolina.
- Whereas:** In 2018, the inmate population was 19,372 held in 21 facilities; and,
- Whereas:** According to the SCDC 25 percent of the correctional officer positions are vacant; and,
- Whereas:** Lee Correctional Institution’s percentage of unfilled positions is slightly higher than the state percentage at 28 percent; and,
- Whereas:** On April 15, 2018 Lee Correctional Institution experienced a riot, the deadliest in a quarter- century; and,
- Whereas:** The Lee Correctional Institute riot left seven inmates dead and twenty-two injured; and,
- Whereas:** Correctional Officer action was delayed, the incident began at 7:15 pm and correctional officers began to take action at 11:30 pm; and,
- Whereas:** Officers had to wait until they gathered an adequate amount of officers to safely enter the scene of the incident and end the riot; and,
- Whereas:** When the riot began, there were only two officers on duty in each housing unit; and,
- Whereas:** Each housing unit can hold around 250 inmates and at the time of the incident Lee County housed around 1,500 inmates; and,
- Whereas:** The starting salary for a correctional officer at maximum security prisons in South Carolina is \$34,596, or about \$16.63 an hour; and,
- Whereas:** In 2015, South Carolina’s prison spending was ranked the ninth lowest in the United States; and,
- Whereas:** In 2018, forty-six serious inmate assaults on employees were reported.

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Therefore: Be it enacted by the South Carolina Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To be added to Title 24: Chapter 3 as Section 24-3-980.

Section II: There will be a staggered increase in the starting salary of correctional officers according to the institutional level where they are employed:

(a) Level I: \$2,500

(b) Level II: \$5,000

(c) Level III: \$7,500

Section III: In addition to the starting salary increase, current employees will receive salary increase of \$75 per year served.

Section IV: The fines that are attached to tickets and citations will be increased to adequately accommodate for the salary changes.

Therefore: This act will take effect thirty days after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented by Caroline Webb
Clemson University**

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Purpose: To provide funding for the expansion and improvement of South Carolina’s public transportation system

Whereas, South Carolina’s motor fuel consumption makes up about one-fourth of the state’s energy consumption and it is thought that the average family can save \$10,000 a year by using public transportation; and,

Whereas, South Carolina roads were ranked 49th out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia in a poll taken by the Associated Press; and,

Whereas, In 2018, there were 973 highway casualties and it is estimated that a person can reduce their odds of getting in an accident by 90% by choosing to take public transportation; and,

Whereas, It is said that for every \$1 invested in public transportation leads to \$4 in the economy and that 71% of public funding for public transportation goes into the private sector with every \$10 million invested in public transportation resulting in \$30 million in business revenue.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To be added to South Carolina fiscal budget as Section 81.17

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:
A) “Public Transportation” means: a group of travel systems available for public use and primarily reference trains.

Section III: South Carolina will authorize funding with the intention of investing said funds into the pursuit of building and expanding the public transportation system to most, if not all parts of South Carolina

Section IV: This bill will go into effect 6 months after passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor

A Bill
Presented by Macay Stephens
Clemson University

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Purpose: To include vaping products in the Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990.

Whereas, The clean indoor act states “It is unlawful for a person to smoke or possess lighted smoking material in any form in the following public indoor areas except where a smoking area is designated”; and,

Whereas, The Clean Indoor Air Act only prohibits the use or possession of a “lighted” smoking material which excludes “vaping” and “e-cigarettes”; and,

Whereas, A loophole is present that allows citizens to circumvent their legal obligation to follow the guidelines under the Clean Indoor Air Act; and,

Whereas, Despite the known or unknown health effects of vaping it still produces smoke and the purpose of this bill is to keep public indoor areas smoke free.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To be added to Title 44: Chapter 44: Article 1: Section 44-95-20

Section II: “Smoking” as now defined:
 (a) lighted smoking material
 (b) vaping
 (c) e-cigarettes

Section III: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon the passage by General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Shania Green
Clemson University

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- 5 **Purpose:** To raise the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco in South Carolina to age 21.
6
- 7 **Whereas,** National Academy of Medicine strongly concluded that raising the tobacco age
8 to 21 will have a substantial positive impact on public health and save lives; and,
9
- 10 **Whereas,** Six states – California, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Oregon, Hawaii and
11 Maine – have raised the tobacco age to purchase tobacco legally to 21, along with
12 430 localities such as New York City, Chicago, San Antonio, Boston, Cleveland,
13 Minneapolis, both Kansas Cities, and Washington, D.C; and,
14
- 15 **Whereas,** 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before they turn the age of 21. The ages of
16 18 to 21 are also a critical period when many smokers move from experimental
17 smoking to regular, daily use. While less than half of adult smokers (46 percent)
18 become daily smokers before age 18, four out of five do so before they turn 21;
19 and,
- 20 **Whereas,** Nicotine is addictive, young adults are more susceptible to its effects because
21 their brains are still developing. Delaying the age when young people first
22 experiment with or begin using tobacco can reduce the risk that they will become
23 addicted smokers; and,
- 24 **Whereas,** Increasing the tobacco age to 21 will help counter the efforts of the tobacco
25 companies to target young people at a critical time when many move from
26 experimenting with tobacco to regular smoking.
27
- 28 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
29 assembled the following:
- 30 **Section I,** To be added to Title 16:Chapter 17 Section 16-17-500
- 31 **Section II** The age to purchase tobacco products will increase from 18 to the age 21. Person
32 must still show I.D. in order to make purchase.

1 **Section III** This amendment will go in effect upon passage by the General Assembly
2 and the signature of the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented By Amanda Stevenson
Erskine College

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- 5 **Purpose:** To consider improvements to the education of South Carolina students.
6
- 7 **Whereas,** Each area of South Carolina has different needs and trades;
8
- 9 **Whereas,** Students should be exposed to job opportunities within their home towns;
10
- 11 **Whereas,** There is a negative stigma associated with staying in the same home town after
12 finishing high school;
13
- 14 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here
15 assembled the following:
16
- 17 **Section I:** Add Section 59-157-10 to the South Carolina Code of Laws for the creation of a
18 temporary committee:
19
- 20 **Section II:** The South Carolina Department of Education should form a committee within
21 itself to discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the development of a shadowing
22 course for South Carolina public high schools. The committee should be formed
23 by 2021. The course would be customizable for the different school districts of
24 the state and the course would be classified as an elective course so that students
25 could get school credit for their work. Students would shadow jobs within the
26 school and the school district as well as trade jobs within their areas. The course
27 could be within each public high school or the district could consider the
28 development of a district wide program.
29
- 30 **Section III:** The committee would be charged with considering the following:
31 A. Roles within the school or school district that have seen a decrease in
32 applications over the last 10 years.
33 B. The trade jobs present in the communities of the school districts and
34 whether those jobs have entry level positions for recent high school
35 graduates.
36 C. The jobs in South Carolina communities that cater directly to the
37 communities in which they belong, and the percentage of those jobs
38 owned and/or run by someone local.
39 D. The elected positions within the cities and counties that have been
40 uncontested for the past 5-10 election cycles
41 E. The percentage of students permanently leaving communities after high
42 school graduation, versus the percentage of students who leave for college
43 and then return to settle down.
44 F. The current job shadowing programs in place within certain districts and
45 how they have affected the success of students within those districts.
46

1 **Section IV:** If the committee determines that a course such as this would be beneficial to the
2 students of South Carolina, the South Carolina Department of Education would be
3 encouraged to develop a program such as this. In the event that the committee
4 determines a program like this to not be beneficial, the committee would be
5 disbanded.
6

7 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
8 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.
9

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A Bill
Presented By Mikayla Glenn and Amanda Stevenson
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To improve the well-being of children in South Carolina.

- Whereas,** Sometimes sibling groups within the foster care system are separated from one another during the home placement process;

- Whereas,** It can be mentally, emotionally, and psychologically harmful for a child to be placed in a completely unfamiliar environment;

- Whereas,** Sibling groups have an incomparable bond;

- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

- Section I:** Add a second sentence to Section 63-7-10 subsection 12 under part A within of the South Carolina Code of Laws to say “In the event of a sibling group removal being necessary, every effort should be made to keep the sibling group together, unless it would be detrimental to the well-being of one or more of the siblings.

- Section V:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Anna Taylor Hydrick
Erskine College

Purpose: To improve mental health care services in South Carolina.

Whereas, South Carolina ranks 50th nationwide for access to mental health care services according to Mental Health America.

Whereas, Four in ten people with a mental health disorder seek help at a primary care provider (who prescribes 70 percent of psychiatric medications nationwide) but receive adequate psychiatric care less than 25 percent of the time.

Whereas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho have passed legislation providing prescribing rights to psychologists who have completed a post-doctoral master’s degree in clinical psychopharmacology and passed a certified exam in psychopharmacology.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Add Section 40-55-200. Medical Psychology Practice

Section II: For the purposes of this section “medical psychologist” or “MP” refers to a psychological practitioner who has undergone specialized training in clinical psychopharmacology and has passed a national proficiency examination in psychopharmacology approved by the board. Such practice specifically includes the authority to administer, prescribe, and distribute drugs.

“Medical psychology” means that profession of the health sciences which deals with the examination, diagnosis, psychological, pharmacologic and other somatic treatment and/or management of mental, nervous, emotional, behavioral, substance abuse or cognitive disorders, and specifically includes the authority to administer, distribute, and or prescribe drugs.

Section III: The board shall have the authority to:

- (1) Establish and publish standards of medical psychology practice in accordance with those developed and accepted by the profession.
- (2) Approve, deny, revoke, suspend, renew and reinstate licensure of qualified applicants.
- (3) Adopt, promulgate, revise, and enforce orders, rules and regulations for initial licensure and certification and renewal as the board may deem necessary to ensure the competency of applicants and the protection of the public.
- (4) Conduct hearings on charges calling for the denial, suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew a license.

1 **Section IV:** The board shall issue a medical psychology license to applicants who submit an
2 application upon a form and in such a manner as the board prescribes and who
3 furnish evidence to the board which meets all of the following criteria:
4

- 5 (1) Holds a current and unrestricted license in good standing to practice
6 psychology issued by the South Carolina State Board of Examiners in
7 Psychology.
- 8 (2) Has successfully graduated with a post-doctoral master's degree in clinical
9 psychopharmacology from an accredited institution or has completed
10 equivalent training to the post-doctoral master's degree approved by the
11 board.
- 12 (3) Has passed a national exam in psychopharmacology approved by the board.
13
14

15 **Section V:** Requirements for consultation and collaboration for medical psychologists
16 without a certificate of advanced practice include:
17

- 18 (1) Medical psychologists shall prescribe only in consultation and collaboration
19 with the patient's primary or attending physician, and with the concurrence of
20 that physician.
- 21 (2) The medical psychologist shall also re-consult with the patient's physician
22 prior to making changes in the patient's medication treatment protocol, as
23 established with the physician, or as otherwise directed by the physician. The
24 medical psychologist and the physician shall document the consultation in the
25 patient's medical record.
- 26 (3) In the event a patient does not have a primary or attending physician, the
27 medical psychologist shall not prescribe for that patient.
- 28 (4) The board shall promulgate rules relating to how the consultation and
29 collaboration shall be affected in consultation with the board.
30
31

32 **Section VI:** Application for certificate of advanced practice requires:
33

- 34 (1) Three years of experience practicing as a licensed medical psychologist.
- 35 (2) The recommendation of two collaborating physicians, each of whom holds a
36 license to practice medicine in South Carolina, and who are each familiar with
37 the applicant's competence to practice medical psychology.
38
39

40 **Section VII:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
41 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.
42

A Bill
Presented by Caroline Woolard
Erskine College

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Purpose: To promote the health of students in South Carolina Public Schools

Whereas: Introducing unvaccinated people to the population compromises herd immunity
 a.) Definition: Herd immunity is the ability to resist the spread of a contagious disease within a population, if and only if a sufficiently high percentage of the individuals are immune/immunized against the disease. It is the primary mechanism by which individuals who remain unvaccinated/ otherwise susceptible are protected against the disease. The percentage of a population that must be immunized to maintain herd immunity varies among diseases but is high, generally between 80-95%

Whereas: Parents who choose not to vaccinate their children increase the potential for harm to other children at school, including those who cannot be immunized because of medical conditions and vaccinated children who remain susceptible to disease (immunocompromised)

Whereas: Schools are breeding grounds for bacteria and disease and have been proven to be the cause of a resurgence in vaccine-preventable diseases

Whereas: Restrictions on individual liberty are justified when individual decisions or actions put others at risk of serious harm

Whereas: The state is not obligated to offer religious exemptions under the Constitution

Therefore: Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 44-29-180 (C) to say, “South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Regulation 61-8, as amended, “Vaccination, Screening and Immunization Regarding Contagious Disease,” excluding its exemptions under ‘II. EXEMPTIONS, 2. Religious Exemption.’ which reads, “A South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may be granted to any student whose parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis signs the appropriate section of the South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption stating that one or more immunizations conflicts with their religious beliefs. The Certificate of Religious Exemption form may only be obtained from the local health department.”

Section II: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Resolution
Presented By: Dylan Kelley
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To protect free speech in the state of South Carolina
- Whereas,** Criticism of the State of Israel is essential for academic discourse and protected under freedom of speech
- Whereas,** Criticism of Israel is not equal to anti-Semitism
- Whereas,** Conflation with Jews, generally, with the State of Israel is offensive
- Whereas,** Legislation that pertains specifically to Jews increases anti-Semitism
- Whereas,** Legislation pertaining to hate speech should cover all groups.
- Therefore,** Be it resolved by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
 - Section I:** The State of South Carolina and its agents shall make no law or official stance regarding the State of Israel
 - Section V:** This resolution will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Heidi Elliott and Brooke Weathers
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To allow terminally ill patients to request physician-assisted death.
- Whereas,** Many states have allowed physician-assisted death as a last resort when all other treatments have failed; and,
- Whereas,** Washington, Vermont, California, Colorado and Washington D.C. and Hawaii have all legalized the practice of such; and,
- Whereas,** The Supreme Court found no constitutional right to Physician-Assisted Death (PAD) in the Washington v. Glucksberg and Quill v. Vacco cases, preferring if the issue be worked out in the “Laboratory of the states.” and,
- Whereas,** Dying patients who are suffering from a terminal illness and life is being destroyed see this as a way of self-preservation; and,
- Whereas,** Studies show that approximately two-thirds of the U.S. population approve it as an option for terminally ill patients who are suffering deeply; and,
- Whereas,** Section 44-77, also known as the Death With Dignity Act, currently allows for terminally ill patients to refuse treatment which would prolong their death, but does not allow for physician-assisted death.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 44-77-30 to read:

If a person eighteen years of age or older adopts a declaration that is substantially in the form provided in Section 44-77-50, whether executed before or after an amendment is made to the form, and that on its face is duly executed, witnessed, and authenticated as provided in Section 44-77-40 or on its face is in compliance with the law of the state of the declarant’s domicile at the time that the declaration is adopted, if the declaration provided for by the law expresses an intent that is substantially the same as the intent of the declaration provided in Section 44-77-40, and the person’s present condition is certified to be terminal or to be in a state of permanent unconsciousness by two physicians who personally have examined the declarant, one of whom is the declarant’s attending physician, and the other of whom is a physician other than the attending physician, then life-sustaining procedures may be withheld, withdrawn, or medication can be given to induce the patient’s death upon the direction and under the supervision of the attending physician. A certification based upon a diagnosis of permanent

1 unconsciousness may not be made until the declarant has remained unconscious
 2 for at least ninety consecutive days, or at any time if the declarant has experienced
 3 massive destruction or atrophy of the cortex as evidenced by neurodiagnostic
 4 studies or gross inspection of the brain, or some other characteristic of the
 5 declarant’s condition allows a diagnosis of permanent unconsciousness to be
 6 made with a high degree of medical certainty.

7 All patients with life-threatening conditions that are diagnosed as terminal or in a
 8 state of permanent unconsciousness must be administered active treatment for at
 9 least six hours following the diagnosis before the physician may give effect to a
 10 declaration.

11
 12
 13 **Section II:** Add subsection (B) to SECTION 44-77-50 to read:

14
 15 The declaration must be substantially in the following form with the procedure and
 16 requirements for revocation of the declaration appearing either in boldface print or
 17 in all upper case letters, the characters in either case being of at least the same size
 18 as used in the rest of the declaration:

19 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF _____
 20

21 I, _____, Declarant, being at least eighteen years of age and a resident of
 22 and domiciled in the City of _____, County of _____, State of South
 23 Carolina, make this Declaration this ___ day of _____, 19__.

24 I wilfully and voluntarily make known my desire that no life-sustaining
 25 procedures be used to prolong my dying if my condition is terminal or if I am in a
 26 state of permanent unconsciousness, and I declare:

27 If at any time I have a condition certified to be a terminal condition by two
 28 physicians who have personally examined me, one of whom is my attending
 29 physician, and the physicians have determined that my death could occur within a
 30 reasonably short period of time without the use of life-sustaining procedures or if
 31 the physicians certify that I am in a state of permanent unconsciousness and where
 32 the application of life-sustaining procedures would serve only to prolong the dying
 33 process, I direct that the procedures be withheld or withdrawn, and that I be
 34 permitted to die by the administration of medication by a physician

35 **APPOINTMENT OF AN AGENT (OPTIONAL)**

36 1. You may give another person authority to revoke this declaration on your
 37 behalf. If you wish to do so, please enter that person’s name in the space below.

38 Name of Agent with Power to Revoke: _

39 Address: _

40 Telephone Number: _

41 2. You may give another person authority to enforce this declaration on your
 42 behalf. If you wish to do so, please enter that person’s name in the space below.

43 Name of Agent with Power to Enforce: _

44 Address: _

45 Telephone Number: _

46 **REVOCAION PROCEDURES**

1 THIS DECLARATION MAY BE REVOKED BY ANY ONE OF THE
2 FOLLOWING METHODS. HOWEVER, A REVOCATION IS NOT
3 EFFECTIVE UNTIL IT IS COMMUNICATED TO THE ATTENDING
4 PHYSICIAN.

5 (1) BY BEING DEFACED, TORN, OBLITERATED, OR OTHERWISE
6 DESTROYED, IN EXPRESSION OF YOUR INTENT TO REVOKE, BY YOU
7 OR BY SOME PERSON IN YOUR PRESENCE AND BY YOUR DIRECTION.
8 REVOCATION BY DESTRUCTION OF ONE OR MORE OF MULTIPLE
9 ORIGINAL DECLARATIONS REVOKES ALL OF THE ORIGINAL
10 DECLARATIONS;

11 (2) BY A WRITTEN REVOCATION SIGNED AND DATED BY YOU
12 EXPRESSING YOUR INTENT TO REVOKE;

13 (3) BY YOUR ORAL EXPRESSION OF YOUR INTENT TO REVOKE THE
14 DECLARATION. AN ORAL REVOCATION COMMUNICATED TO THE
15 ATTENDING PHYSICIAN BY A PERSON OTHER THAN YOU IS
16 EFFECTIVE ONLY IF:

17 (a) THE PERSON WAS PRESENT WHEN THE ORAL REVOCATION WAS
18 MADE;

19 (b) THE REVOCATION WAS COMMUNICATED TO THE PHYSICIAN
20 WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME;

21 (c) YOUR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL CONDITION MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE
22 FOR THE PHYSICIAN TO CONFIRM THROUGH SUBSEQUENT
23 CONVERSATION WITH YOU THAT THE REVOCATION HAS OCCURRED.
24 TO BE EFFECTIVE AS A REVOCATION, THE ORAL EXPRESSION
25 CLEARLY MUST INDICATE YOUR DESIRE THAT THE DECLARATION
26 NOT BE GIVEN EFFECT OR THAT LIFE-SUSTAINING PROCEDURES BE
27 ADMINISTERED;

28 (4) IF YOU, IN THE SPACE ABOVE, HAVE AUTHORIZED AN AGENT TO
29 REVOKE THE DECLARATION, THE AGENT MAY REVOKE ORALLY OR
30 BY A WRITTEN, SIGNED, AND DATED INSTRUMENT. AN AGENT MAY
31 REVOKE ONLY IF YOU ARE INCOMPETENT TO DO SO. AN AGENT MAY
32 REVOKE THE DECLARATION PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY.

33 (5) BY YOUR EXECUTING ANOTHER DECLARATION AT A LATER TIME.
34

35 Signature of Declarant _____
36 State of _____ AFFIDAVIT _____
37 County of _____

38 We, _____ and _____, the undersigned witnesses to the foregoing
39 Declaration, dated the ___ day of _____, 19___, at least one of us being first
40 duly sworn, declare to the undersigned authority, on the basis of our best
41 information and belief, that the Declaration was on that date signed by the declarant
42 as and for his DECLARATION OF A DESIRE FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTED
43 DEATH in our presence and we, at his request and in his presence, and in the
44 presence of each other, subscribe our names as witnesses on that date. The declarant
45 is personally known to us, and we believe him to be of sound mind. Each of us
46 affirms that he is qualified as a witness to this Declaration under the provisions of

1 the South Carolina Death With Dignity Act in that he is not related to the declarant
 2 by blood, marriage, or adoption, either as a spouse, lineal ancestor, descendant of
 3 the parents of the declarant, or spouse of any of them; nor directly financially
 4 responsible for the declarant’s medical care; nor entitled to any portion of the
 5 declarant’s estate upon his decease, whether under any will or as an heir by intestate
 6 succession; nor the beneficiary of a life insurance policy of the declarant; nor the
 7 declarant’s attending physician; nor an employee of the attending physician; nor a
 8 person who has a claim against the declarant’s decedent’s estate as of this time. No
 9 more than one of us is an employee of a health facility in which the declarant is a
 10 patient. If the declarant is a resident in a hospital or nursing care facility at the date
 11 of execution of this Declaration, at least one of us is an ombudsman designated by
 12 the State Ombudsman, Office of the Governor.

13 _____ Witness

14 _____ Witness

15 Subscribed before me by _____, the declarant, and subscribed and sworn
 16 to before me by _____, the witnesses, this ___ day of _____, 19__.

17
 18 Signature _____

19 Notary Public for _____

20 My commission expires: _____

21 SEAL

22
 23 **Section III:** Add subsection (B) to SECTION 44-77-90, to read:

24
 25 Any person who in good faith and in accordance with the provisions of this
 26 chapter participates in the practice of Physician-Assisted Death for the patient is
 27 not subject to criminal or civil liability on account of the withholding or
 28 withdrawal. The immunity from civil liability does not extend to cases in which a
 29 physician deviates from standards of reasonable medical care in connection with
 30 the decision of Physician-Assisted Death.

31
 32 **Section IV:** Strike SECTION 44-77-130

33 ~~Chapter not to be construed to authorize or approve mercy killing.~~
 34 ~~Nothing in this chapter may be construed to authorize or approve mercy killing, or~~
 35 ~~to permit any affirmative or deliberate act or omission to end life other than to~~
 36 ~~permit the natural process of dying.~~

37
 38 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General
 39 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Imani Parks-Williams
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To protect the rights of death row inmates.
- Whereas,** South Carolina has lacked a steady supply of the lethal injection drugs since December 1, 2017.
- Whereas,** As of February 7th 2019 an Amendment to the SECTION 24-3-530, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA made it so that if the lethal injection “is determined and certified pursuant to subsection (B) to be unavailable by the Director of the Department of Corrections or is held to be unconstitutional by an appellate court of competent jurisdiction” then the manner of execution must be by electrocution “regardless of the method elected by the person.”
- Whereas,** This prevents death row inmates from having a painless death as a viable option.
- Whereas,** The state currently has the electric chair as its only means to carrying out a death sentence, however SECTION 24-3-530 of the South Carolina Code of Laws appears to offer options, though it is pretense.
- Whereas,** Temporarily suspending the death penalty until the lethal injection is available will allow SECTION 24-3-530 of the South Carolina Code to function under fair and proper conditions.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** The death sentence will temporarily cease to be imposed on individuals convicted of capital crimes.
- Section II:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Leigh Pendergrass
Erskine College

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Purpose: To create an emergency lane on all primary interstates in South Carolina.

Whereas, Seconds could mean life or death for those in need of emergency medical services; and,

Whereas, Sometimes drivers cannot, or do not, pull over or slow down to allow an emergency vehicle to pass; and,

Whereas, Traffic becomes congested in the event of collisions on interstates, preventing the passage of emergency vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances; and,

Whereas, It is safer for an emergency vehicle to use an emergency lane than to weave through traffic in the event of other medical emergencies.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: An emergency lane is to be added on all primary interstates in the state of South Carolina at the discretion of the South Carolina Department of Transportation by using funds from a 1% sales tax increase to all alcohol sales with the exemption of purchases made for religious purposes.

Section II: To amend Title 56, Chapter 5 of the South Carolina Code of Laws by adding Article 1040 entitled “Emergency Lane Penalties” which states the following:

Any non-emergency vehicle found using the emergency lane for any purpose will be given a warning ticket for a first offense, a ticket with a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) for the second offense, and a ticket with a maximum fine of five-hundred dollars (\$500) and/or four (4) points on the driver’s license for third and subsequent offenses.

Section III: This bill will go into effect August 1, 2019 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented By: Logan Franks and Hope Crenshaw
Erskine College

Purpose: TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 32 TO TITLE 17 SO AS TO ENACT THE "ASSET FORFEITURE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION ACT"

Whereas, As demonstrated by the recent investigations by the Greenville News and Anderson Independent, asset forfeiture is a wide spread problem across the state, and;

Whereas, HS 3968 does not fully and fairly resolve the problem of asset forfeiture in South Carolina, and;

Whereas, For the purposes of this bill, language removed from the original version of HS 3969 has been stricken, and new language has been bolded and highlighted.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Title 17 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

"CHAPTER 32
Asset Forfeiture and Private Property Protection
Section 17-32-10. This chapter may be cited as the 'Asset Forfeiture and Private Property Protection Act'.

Section 17-32-20. As used in this chapter:

- (1) 'Contraband' means goods that are unlawful to import, export, or possess.
- (2) 'Conveyance' means a device used for transportation, including a motor vehicle, trailer, snowmobile, airplane, vessel, and any equipment attached to it. This term does not include property that is stolen or taken in violation of the law.
- (3) 'Instrumentality' means property otherwise lawful to possess that is used in a criminal offense, including a tool, firearm, conveyance, computer, computer software, telecommunications device, money, and other means of exchange.
- (4) 'Law enforcement agency' has the same meaning as in Section 17-28-20(8).

1 (5) 'Law subject to forfeiture' means a state criminal law that is a felony and
2 explicitly includes forfeiture as punishment or sanction for the
3 offense.
4

5 Section 17-32-30. (A) Property used in or derived from the violation of a law
6 is subject to forfeiture only if the violation is:
7

8 (1) of a law subject to forfeiture; and
9

10 (2) established by proof of a criminal conviction.
11

12 (B) The State shall establish that seized property is forfeitable pursuant to the
13 provisions of Section 17-32-40(A).
14

15 (C) There is no civil asset forfeiture.
16

17 Section 17-32-40. (A) If a person is convicted of violating a law subject to
18 forfeiture, the court shall order the person to forfeit:
19

20 (1) proceeds and property derived directly from the commission of the crime;
21

22 (2) proceeds and property directly traceable to proceeds and property derived
23 directly from the commission of the crime; and
24

25 (3) instrumentalities used in the commission of the crime.
26

27 (B) The only property subject to forfeiture is:
28

29 (1) land, buildings, containers, conveyances, equipment, materials, products,
30 money, securities, and negotiable instruments; and
31

32 (2) ammunition, firearms, and ammunition-and-firearm accessories used in the
33 furtherance of, or in the commission of, or obtained from the
34 proceeds of a violation of a law subject to forfeiture.
35

36 ~~(C) The State may petition the court to order the defendant to submit substitute~~
37 ~~property owned fully by the defendant up to the value of~~
38 ~~unreachable property if the State proves, by a preponderance of the~~
39 ~~evidence, that the defendant intentionally transferred, sold, or~~
40 ~~deposited property with a third party to avoid the court's~~
41 ~~jurisdiction. The State may not seek additional remedies including,~~
42 ~~but not limited to, a personal money judgment.~~
43

44 **(C) If a defendant is caught trying to intentionally transfer, sell, or deposit**
45 **property with a third party to avoid the court's jurisdiction,**
46 **the defendant will be subject to additional offenses, including**

1 **but not limited to: Obstruction of Justice, Petty Theft, Grand**
2 **Theft, etc.**

- 3
4 (D) A defendant is not jointly and severally liable for forfeiture awards owed by
5 other defendants. When ownership is unclear, a court may order
6 each defendant to forfeit property on a pro rata basis proportional
7 to the proceeds that each defendant personally received.
8

9 Section 17-32-50. (A) A law enforcement agency may not transfer a criminal
10 investigation or proceeding to the federal government with the sole
11 intention to circumvent state forfeiture law.
12

- 13 (B) For a law enforcement agency to transfer a criminal investigation or
14 proceeding that includes forfeiture to the federal government, a
15 state court shall affirmatively find that the:
16

17 (1) suspected criminal activity giving rise to the forfeiture is interstate in nature
18 and sufficiently complex to justify the transfer; or
19

20 (2) seized property is forfeitable only as a violation of federal law.
21

- 22 (C) The law enforcement agency shall report all transfers to the federal
23 government of an investigation or criminal proceeding that
24 involves forfeiture per the reporting requirements in Sections 17-
25 32-80 and 17-32-200.
26

27 Section 17-32-60. (A)(1) Property subject to forfeiture must be identified by
28 the State in an indictment issued by a grand jury or by information
29 in the court in a related criminal proceeding in which a person with
30 an interest in the property has been simultaneously charged with a
31 violation of a law subject to forfeiture.
32

- 33 (2) The indictment or information must:
34

35 (a) specify the time and place of the violation;
36

37 (b) identify the property; and
38

39 (c) describe its use in the commission of the crime or derivation from the
40 commission of the crime.
41

- 42 (3) The State, with the consent of the court and a defendant with an interest in
43 the property, may file an ancillary charge alleging that property is
44 subject to forfeiture at any time prior to trial.
45

1 Section 17-32-70.—(A)—The State may petition the court to issue an ex parte
 2 preliminary order to seize or secure property for which forfeiture is
 3 sought and to provide for its custody.
 4

5 (B)—Property subject to forfeiture may be seized without a court order if the:
 6

7 (1)—seizure is incident to a lawful arrest or a lawful search;
 8

9 (2)—property subject to seizure is the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the
 10 State; or
 11

12 (3)—State has probable cause to believe that delay occasioned by the necessity to
 13 obtain process would result in the removal or destruction of
 14 property and the property is forfeitable pursuant to Section 17-32-
 15 40.
 16

17 (A) **The State shall only seize property without a court order or prior**
 18 **warning to the property owner only if the property presents an**
 19 **immediate danger to the citizens of South Carolina, including**
 20 **threatened harm, physical injury, or mental injury as defined**
 21 **in section 20-7-490**
 22

23 (B) When property is seized, the law enforcement officer who seizes the
 24 property shall give an itemized receipt to the person in possession
 25 of the property. If the property is not with a person or the person is
 26 absent from the premises, the law enforcement officer may leave a
 27 receipt in the place where the property was found.
 28

29 Section 17-32-80. (A) The State acquires provisional title at the time of
 30 seizure, which authorizes the State to hold and protect the property.
 31 Title to the property vests with the State when a final forfeiture
 32 verdict is returned in favor of the State and relates the verdict back
 33 to the time when the State acquired provisional title. This title is
 34 still subject to third party claims pursuant to the provisions of this
 35 chapter.
 36

37 (B) The State shall use reasonable diligence to secure seized property and
 38 prevent waste.
 39

40 (C) The State entity in custody of seized property that is subject to forfeiture
 41 shall maintain a record of:
 42

43 (1) the exact kind, quantity, and form of the property;
 44

45 (2) the date and from whom it received the property;
 46

- 1 (3) the violation of law that subjected the property to seizure;
 2
 3 (4) the liens against the seized property;
 4
 5 (5) the make, model, and serial number of each seized firearm;
 6
 7 (6) to whom and when the notice of forfeiture was given;
 8
 9 (7) to whom the property was delivered; and
 10
 11 (8) the date and manner of destruction or disposition of the property.
 12

13 The records required pursuant to this subsection are subject to the provisions of
 14 Chapter 4, Title 30, the Freedom of Information Act.
 15

16 Section 17-32-90. ~~(A) If the owner of the seized property seeks its possession~~
 17 ~~before trial, the owner may post bond or give substitute property in~~
 18 ~~an amount equal to the fair market value of the seized property at~~
 19 ~~the time bond is determined. This does not apply to property~~
 20 ~~reasonably held for investigatory purposes.~~
 21

22 ~~(B) After the owner has posted bond or given substitute property, the State shall~~
 23 ~~return the seized property within three business days. The~~
 24 ~~forfeiture action may proceed against the bond or substitute~~
 25 ~~property as if it were the seized property.~~
 26

27 **(A) Property can be reclaimed by the owner for no**
 28 **substitute, so long as the property is not an illegal**
 29 **entity or substance, and meets all requirements set**
 30 **forth in Section 17-32-70**
 31

32 Section 17-32-100. A person who has an interest in seized property may file a
 33 petition for remission or mitigation for the forfeiture action with
 34 the Attorney General of South Carolina before the entry of a court
 35 order disposing of the forfeiture action. The Attorney General shall
 36 remit or mitigate the forfeiture ~~on terms and conditions the~~
 37 ~~Attorney General deems reasonable~~ if he finds that:
 38

- 39 (1) the petitioner did not intend to violate the law; or
 40
 41 (2) **The property meets all stipulations stated in sections 17-32-90 and 17-**
 42 **32-70**
 43
 44 (3) extenuating circumstances justify the remission or mitigation of the
 45 forfeiture.
 46

1 Section 17-32-110. (A) Following the seizure of property pursuant to the
2 provisions of this chapter, a defendant or third party has the right
3 to a pretrial hearing to determine the validity of the seizure.
4

5 (B) The claimant, at any time prior to sixty days before trial of the related
6 criminal violation, may claim the right to possession of property by
7 motion to the court to issue a writ of replevin.
8

9 (C) The claimant shall file a motion establishing the validity of the alleged right,
10 title, or interest in the property. The court shall hear the motion no
11 more than thirty days after the motion is filed. The State shall file
12 an answer showing probable cause for the seizure or cross-motions
13 at least ten days before the hearing.
14

15 (D) The court shall grant the motion if it finds that:
16

17 (1) it is likely the final judgment will be that the State must return the property
18 to the claimant; or
19

20 (2) the property is the only reasonable means for a defendant to pay for legal
21 representation in the forfeiture or criminal proceeding.
22

23 (E) The court may order the State to give security for satisfaction of any
24 judgment, including damages, that may be rendered in the action or
25 order other relief as may be just in lieu of ordering the issuance of
26 the writ.
27

28 Section 17-32-120. (A) The trial of the alleged crime and the trial related to
29 the forfeiture of property must be held in a single proceeding
30 unless the defendant moves to separate the trial.
31

32 (B) The defendant may waive the right to a trial by jury related to the forfeiture
33 of property while preserving the right to trial by jury of the alleged
34 crime. If the jury finds a defendant guilty of the related criminal
35 offense and the defendant did not waive the right to trial by jury
36 related to the forfeiture, the court shall instruct and submit the
37 issue of forfeiture to the jury. The court may use interrogatories to
38 address the forfeiture issue.
39

40 (C) If the court separates the jury trial:
41

42 (1) the court shall first instruct and submit to the jury the issue of guilt or
43 innocence and shall restrict arguments to that issue; and
44

45 (2) each party may introduce evidence in the forfeiture phase that was not
46 introduced in the criminal phase.

1
2 Section 17-32-130. (A) Following a finding of fact against him, the owner of
3 the property may petition the court to determine whether the
4 forfeiture is unconstitutionally excessive under the South Carolina
5 or United States Constitution. The owner of the property has the
6 burden of establishing that the forfeiture is grossly disproportional
7 to the seriousness of the offense by a preponderance of the
8 evidence at a hearing conducted by the court without a jury.
9

10 (B) The court shall consider all relevant factors when determining the
11 constitutionality of a forfeiture including, but not limited to:

- 12
13 (1) the seriousness of the offense and its impact on the community, including
14 the duration of the activity and the harm caused by the person
15 whose property is subject to forfeiture;
16
17 (2) the extent to which the person whose property is subject to forfeiture
18 participated in the offense;
19
20 (3) the extent to which the property was used in the commission of the offense;
21
22 (4) the sentence imposed for committing the crime subject to forfeiture; and
23
24 (5) whether the offense was attempted or completed.
25

26 (C) The court shall consider all relevant factors, except the value of the property
27 to the State, when determining the value of the property subject to
28 forfeiture including, but not limited to, the:
29

- 30 (1) fair market value of the property;
31
32 (2) value of the property to the person, including hardship to the owner if the
33 property is forfeited; and
34
35 (3) hardship from the loss of the property to family members or others if the
36 property is forfeited.
37

38 Section 17-32-140. A bona fide security interest in property is not subject to
39 forfeiture unless the person claiming the security interest had
40 actual knowledge that the property was subject to forfeiture at the
41 time the property was seized or restrained. The party claiming the
42 security interest bears the burden of establishing the validity of the
43 interest by a preponderance of the evidence.
44

45 Section 17-32-150. ~~(A) A person who has not been charged in the indictment~~
46 ~~but has an interest in the property subject to forfeiture may not~~

1 ~~intervene after the criminal trial has begun. Following the entry of~~
2 ~~a guilty plea in the court or a verdict of forfeiture of property, the~~
3 ~~State shall exercise reasonable diligence to identify a person with a~~
4 ~~potential interest in the property and make reasonable efforts to~~
5 ~~give notice to potential claimants. The State shall provide notice by~~
6 ~~publication in a newspaper most likely to give notice to potential~~
7 ~~claimants and provide written notice of its intent to dispose of~~
8 ~~property to a person known or alleged to have an interest in the~~
9 ~~property exempted from forfeiture under this chapter, including a~~
10 ~~person making claims for:~~

11
12 ~~(1) court-ordered child support;~~

13
14 ~~(2) employment-related compensation; and~~

15
16 ~~(3) payment of unsecured debts.~~

17
18 **(A)** A third party asserting a legal interest in the property may petition the court
19 for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the interest in the
20 property within sixty days of the date of the notice. The request for
21 hearing shall:

22
23 (1) be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury;

24
25 (2) state the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title or interest in the
26 property;

27
28 (3) the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title, or
29 interest; and

30
31 (4) any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim and the relief sought.

32
33 **(B)** Upon the filing of a petition, the court must schedule the hearing no later
34 than six months after the sentencing of any defendant convicted
35 upon the same indictment. The court must issue or amend a final
36 order of forfeiture after a hearing if the court determines that the
37 petitioner:

38
39 (1) has a legal right, title, or interest in the property that renders the order of
40 forfeiture invalid in whole or in part because it was vested in the
41 petitioner rather than the defendant or was superior to the
42 defendant's right, title, or interest at the time the property was
43 seized or restrained; or

44
45 (3) is a bona fide purchaser for value of the right, title, or interest in the property
46 and was without cause to believe that the property was subject to forfeiture

1 at the time of purchase. The State has the burden of proof with respect to the
 2 issue of whether the petition was without cause to believe the property was
 3 subject to forfeiture at the time of purchase.
 4

5 **(C) The State shall make all property seized public knowledge and shall**
 6 **establish a public data base of all relevant property gained by forfeiture. In**
 7 **addition, property must be publicized in some sort of media, including but**
 8 **not limited to: newspapers, news outlets, etc.**
 9

10 Section 17-32-160. (A) The property of an innocent partial or joint owner may
 11 not be forfeited under any forfeiture statute. A person who has a
 12 partial or joint interest in property subject to forfeiture at the time
 13 the illegal conduct occurred and claims to be an innocent partial or
 14 joint owner has a prima facie case that they have a legal right, title,
 15 or interest in the property seized or restrained.
 16

17 (B) The State must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the innocent
 18 owner had actual knowledge of the underlying crime giving rise to
 19 the forfeiture or was willfully blind to its commission. If the State
 20 fails to meet its burden, the court shall find that the person was not
 21 a party to the crime and is an innocent partial or joint owner. If the
 22 State meets its burden, the innocent owner may reestablish
 23 innocent owner status by showing that they took reasonable steps
 24 to prohibit, abate, or terminate the illegal use of the property by a
 25 preponderance of the evidence. The innocent owner may show that
 26 they did all that could reasonably be expected by demonstrating
 27 that they:
 28

29 (1) gave timely notice to an appropriate law enforcement agency of information
 30 that led the person to know that conduct giving rise to forfeiture
 31 would occur or had occurred; or
 32

33 (2) revoked or made a good faith attempt to revoke permission for those
 34 engaging in illegal conduct to use the property or took other
 35 reasonable actions in consultation with a law enforcement agency
 36 to discourage or prevent the illegal use of property.
 37

38 The innocent owner is not required to take steps that they reasonably believe
 39 would subject them to physical danger.
 40

41 (C)(1) A person who acquired an ownership interest in property after the
 42 commission of a crime giving rise to forfeiture occurred and claims
 43 to be an innocent partial or joint owner must establish a prima facie
 44 case that they have a legal right in the property seized. The State
 45 must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the person had
 46 actual knowledge that the property was subject to forfeiture or was

1 willfully blind to the commission of the crime yet subjected the
2 property to forfeiture in order to proceed with the forfeiture.

3
4 (2) The court shall limit the value of an interest in real property for which
5 innocent ownership has been recognized to the value necessary to
6 maintain reasonable shelter in the community for the person and all
7 dependents residing with the person. An otherwise valid innocent
8 owner claim may not be denied on the grounds that the person
9 gave nothing of value in exchange for the property if:

10
11 (a) the property is the person's primary residence;

12
13 (b) depriving the person of the property would deprive the person of the means
14 to maintain reasonable shelter in the community for the person and
15 all dependents residing with the person;

16
17 (c) the property is not, and is not traceable to, the proceeds of any criminal
18 offense; and

19
20 (d) the person acquired the interest in the property through marriage, divorce,
21 legal separation, or the person was the spouse or legal dependent of
22 someone whose death resulted in the transfer of the property
23 through inheritance or probate.

24
25 (D) If the court determines that an innocent joint or partial owner has an interest
26 in seized property, the court shall enter an appropriate order
27 reflecting the innocent owner's preference for:

28
29 (1) severing the property;

30
31 (2) transferring the property to the State with a provision that the State
32 compensate the innocent owner to the extent of their interest once
33 a final order of forfeiture has been entered and the property has
34 been reduced to liquid assets; or

35
36 (3) permitting the innocent owner to retain the property subject to a lien in favor
37 of the State to the extent of the forfeitable interest in the property.

38
39 Section 17-32-170. (A) The State shall return property to the owner within a
40 reasonable period of time not to exceed three business days after a
41 court finds that:

42
43 (1) the owner had a bona fide security interest;

44
45 (2) the owner was an innocent owner;

46

- 1 (3) charges against the owner were dismissed; or
- 2
- 3 (4) the owner was found not guilty of the criminal charge that is the basis for the
- 4 forfeiture action.
- 5
- 6 (B) If property returned pursuant to subsection (A) has been damaged, the
- 7 owner may make a claim in small claims court for the damages to
- 8 the seized property against the agency that seized the property.
- 9
- 10 (C) The State is responsible for any storage fees and related costs applicable to
- 11 property returned under subsection (A).
- 12

13 Section 17-32-180. (A) If a trier of fact finds that property is to be forfeited,

14 the court shall order the State to:

- 15
- 16 (1) return stolen property to its owner;
- 17
- 18 (2) sell firearms, ammunition and firearm accessories to licensed firearm dealers
- 19 in a commercially reasonable manner; and
- 20
- 21 (3) sell other property in a commercially reasonable manner.
- 22
- 23 (B) The law enforcement agency that seized the property may not retain it for its
- 24 own use or sell it directly to any employee of the agency, family
- 25 member of an employee, or to another law enforcement agency.
- 26

27 Section 17-32-190. (A) Proceeds seized and proceeds from the sale of

28 forfeited assets only may be distributed pursuant to a court order.

29 The court shall order the funds be used to pay, in order of priority,

30 for the following purposes:

- 31
- 32 (1) storage and sale expenses;
- 33
- 34 (2) satisfaction of valid liens against the property;
- 35
- 36 (3) restitution ordered to the victim of the criminal offense;
- 37
- 38 (4) reimbursement of investigation costs excluding salaries that the law
- 39 enforcement agency incurred in the seizure of the assets subject to
- 40 the forfeiture action;
- 41
- 42 (5) court-ordered child support obligations;
- 43
- 44 (6) claims for compensation by the defendant's employees; and
- 45
- 46 (7) claims for compensation by defendant's unsecured creditors.

1
2 **(B) All remaining funds must be forwarded to the Office of the State**
3 **Treasurer for deposit into the general fund.**

4
5 (C) A law enforcement agency may not directly or indirectly transfer seized or
6 forfeited property to a federal law enforcement authority or other
7 federal agency unless the:

- 8
9 (1) value of the seized or forfeited property exceeds fifty thousand dollars,
10 excluding the potential value of controlled substances; and
11
12 (2) law enforcement agency determines that the criminal conduct that gave rise
13 to the seizure is interstate in nature and sufficiently complex to
14 justify the transfer of the property; or
15
16 (3) seized or forfeited property only may be forfeited under federal law.

17
18 Section 17-32-200. (A) Every law enforcement agency in this State shall
19 compile and file a report with the Office of the Attorney General
20 on no less than a **quarter**-annual (3 month) basis listing the
21 following information on each individual seizure and forfeiture
22 completed under state and federal forfeiture law including, but not
23 limited to, the:

- 24
25 (1) date the property was seized;
26
27 (2) type of property seized, including details such as the year, make and model
28 of a conveyance;
29
30 (3) alleged crime associated with the seizure of the property and outcome of the
31 related criminal action;
32
33 (4) venue of the forfeiture case and whether the property owner was represented
34 by counsel;
35
36 (5) market value of the property seized;
37
38 (6) net amount received from the forfeiture, the gross amount received from the
39 forfeiture and the total administrative and other expenses deducted;
40
41 (7) date and manner of the disposition of the property; and
42
43 (8) data on how the funds were spent.
44
45 (B) The Office of the Attorney General shall develop a standard form, filing
46 process, and establish deadlines for the submission of forfeiture

1 data and shall publish the reports when it publishes agency
2 accountability reports.
3

4 (C) A law enforcement agency that fails to submit a report is in violation of this
5 chapter and may have funds withheld until the agency is found in
6 compliance with the provisions of this section."
7

8 **Section II:** The provisions of this act provide the exclusive process governing forfeiture of
9 property in this State, and if there is a conflict between the provisions of this act
10 and another provision of law, the provisions of this act control. However, the
11 provisions of this act do not apply to property considered "contraband" as defined
12 in this act.
13

14 **Section III:** The repeal or amendment by this act of any law, whether temporary or permanent
15 or civil or criminal, does not affect pending actions, rights, duties, or liabilities
16 founded thereon, or alter, discharge, release or extinguish any penalty, forfeiture,
17 or liability incurred under the repealed or amended law, unless the repealed or
18 amended provision shall so expressly provide. After the effective date of this act,
19 all laws repealed or amended by this act must be taken and treated as remaining in
20 full force and effect for the purpose of sustaining any pending or vested right,
21 civil action, special proceeding, criminal prosecution, or appeal existing as of the
22 effective date of this act, and for the enforcement of rights, duties, penalties,
23 forfeitures, and liabilities as they stood under the repealed or amended laws.
24

25 **Section IV:** If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or
26 word of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such
27 holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions
28 of this act, the General Assembly hereby declaring that it would have passed this
29 act, and each and every section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence,
30 clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more
31 other sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, sentences, clauses,
32 phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, or
33 otherwise ineffective.
34

35 **Section V:** This bill will go into effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the
36 signature of the Governor.
37

An Bill
Presented By Rachel Bates
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To amend the Sexually Violent Predators Act.
- Whereas,** The DSM-5 lists pedophilia as a mental disorder that still renders those diagnosed liable for their actions.
- Whereas,** A government study followed a sample of 197 child molesters and found that 42% of the sample were reconvicted of sexual crimes, violent crimes, or both in a period of around 35 years.
- Whereas,** Following the release of 200 convicted child molesters in SC in 2001, 2.5 percent rearrested within three years for a new sex crime. 23.5 % were reincarcerated for any crime within three years, and child molesters with prior arrests were rearrested at rates of 44.3% within three years.
- Whereas,** Recidivism rates can only provide a snapshot view of reoffence rates.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** Add the following:
Section 44-48-30 Definitions
(13) Child be defined as an individual younger than 18 accordance to SC law section 63-7-20.
- Section II:** Add the following:
Section 44-48-40
(5) The release of a person who has been found guilty of a sexually violent offense (as defined in this chapter) against a child.
- Section III:** Specify “the victim and/or their legal guardian” in all sections previously referring to notifying the victim.
- Section IV:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020 upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Thomasena Thomas
College of Charleston

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Purpose: To implement the South Carolina CTE program in all South Carolina high schools.

Whereas, This program is being implemented to provide students with the skills and tools they need to succeed post graduation.

Whereas, Statistics shows that almost half the students that graduate from high school have no clue what they want to do. When this program is implemented into the schools, it will allow students to graduate high school with a license in a trade skill

Whereas, Trade skills are a great asset to a student's future career. The South Carolina CTE program provides students with world class curricula that not only elevates their knowledge in a certain tads skill. This program also advances a student's career readiness and assist students in growing their collegiate skills.

Therefore, Be enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in Spring Session assembled that:

Section I: The state of South Carolina will add the SC CTE program to curriculum of all South Carolinian high schools

Section II: This bill shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Brynn Smith
College of Charleston

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5 **Purpose:** To eliminate the practice of corporal punishment as a means of discipline in
6 public schools, and to provide an effective alternative behavior management
7 model.
8
- 9 **Whereas,** According to the *American Psychology Association*, many studies have shown
10 that physical (corporal) punishment — including spanking, hitting and other
11 means of causing pain — can lead to increased aggression, antisocial behavior,
12 physical injury and mental health problems for children and;
13
- 14 **Whereas,** Many studies also show that corporal punishment is associated with lower
15 intellectual achievement, poorer quality of relationships with adults, mental health
16 problems such as depression, and diminished moral internalization and;
17
- 18 **Whereas,** The evidence about whether physical punishment results in short-term
19 compliance is mixed, with some studies showing effectiveness in achieving this
20 and others not. Short-term compliance can, however, be achieved as effectively
21 without using physical punishment and;
22
- 23 **Whereas,** Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) are the application of a
24 behaviorally-based systems approach that enhances the ability of the school to
25 improve the link between research-validated teaching practices and classroom
26 environments in which teaching and learning occurs and;
27
- 28 **Whereas,** The PBIS approach is a highly effective way for schools to encourage good
29 student behavior. PBIS allows students to learn about behavior, just as they learn
30 other subjects like math or science and;
31
- 32 **Whereas,** PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems
33 approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by
34 developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems.
35 The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive
36 behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides
37 systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide,
38 classroom, non-classroom, and student-specific plans and;
39
- 40 **Whereas.** PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and
41 all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based
42 process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach
43 to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach
44 and all students can learn and;
45

1 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
2 assembled the following:
3

4 **Section I:** For the purpose of this bill, the following terms are defined as
5 follows:
6

7 (1) **Corporal Punishment** is punishment that involves the infliction of
8 physical pain on a person's body by striking them with one's hand, foot or
9 an object.

10 (2) **Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** are the
11 application of a behaviorally-based systems approach that enhances the
12 ability of the school to improve the link between research-validated
13 teaching practices and classroom environments in which teaching and
14 learning occurs.
15

16 **Section II:** SECTION 59-63-260 of the South Carolina Code of Law is amended to read:
17 ~~“The governing body of each school district may provide corporal punishment for~~
18 ~~any pupil that it deems just and proper~~ No governing body of a school district
19 under the authority of the state of South Carolina may discipline its students
20 through the use of corporal punishment.
21

22 **Section III:** A new section is added to the code as follows (SECTION 59-63-261): The
23 governing body of each school district shall encourage its schools to use Positive
24 Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as a primary approach to managing
25 student behavior. Schools shall also be encouraged to use non-corporal forms of
26 punishment to manage student behavior only after all preventative methods have
27 been employed.
28

29 **Section IV:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the
30 signature of the Governor.
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A Bill
Presented by Alex Long
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To increase voting participation in elections by eliminating the requirement to provide an excuse when requesting an absentee ballot.

Whereas, Thirty one states do not require an excuse for absentee balloting, including Georgia and Florida; and,

Whereas, States with no excuse for absentee voting have very little to no voter fraud on record; and,

Whereas, Requesting an absentee ballot already requires a person to be a registered voter, with or without excuse; and,

Whereas, According to the Greenville County Election Commission, absentee ballot applications are almost never rejected; and,

Whereas, Research on absentee ballots shows that eliminating the need for excuses makes voting easier for groups like the elderly and those in the military.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 7-15-320 to read:
 (A) All registered voters shall be able to receive in person or by mail an absentee ballot without excuse or application.
~~(A) Qualified electors in any of the following categories must be permitted to vote by absentee ballot in all elections when they are absent from their county of residence on election day during the hours the polls are open, to an extent that it prevents them from voting in person:~~

Section II: This bill will go into effect immediately upon the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Ben Anderson
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To ensure the safety of first responders while responding to emergencies.

Whereas, The state of South Carolina passed the *Move Over* law in 2002 in order to protect first responders, however many citizens still do not follow the law; and,

Whereas, In June 2007, a Greenville County sheriff's deputy was injured during a routine traffic stop when a vehicle slammed the police cruiser causing the deputy severe injury; and,

Whereas, According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 18 South Carolina first responders were killed by collisions on duty; and,

Whereas, Many citizens in the state are unaware that the law exists, and continue to contribute to many accidents on highways, most recently killing of a state trooper, also in Greenville County.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend section 56-5-1538. Emergency Scene Management;

(G) A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of the misdemeanor of endangering emergency services personnel and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than ~~three hundred dollars nor more than five hundred~~ ~~dollars~~ five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars.

1. Upon a second conviction, person who violates must be fined one thousand five hundred dollars.
2. Upon a third conviction, person who violates must be fined three thousand dollars.

Section II: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented by Bailey Gordon
Coastal Carolina University**

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Purpose: To allow faculty to conceal carry on college campuses in South Carolina, and also to students if an educational course is provided, taken, and passed by the college or university.

Whereas, According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, only 16 of 50 states including S.C., ban concealed carry on college campuses, and 34 states allow concealed firearms on campus in some form; and,

Whereas, In 2017, Georgia passed a new campus carry law allowing students and faculty to possess concealed firearms on campus. Arkansas changed their law from only allowing faculty and staff to carry concealed firearms to everyone on college and university campuses in 2017; and,

Whereas, According to FBI crime data, states that have expanded 2nd amendment rights and implemented “shall-issue” concealed carry laws reduced murders by 8.5%, rapes by 5%, aggravated assaults by 7%, and robbery by 3%; and,

Whereas, According to Supreme Court cases *Heller v DC* (2008) and *McDonald v Chicago* (2010), the right to carry concealed handguns in public places is guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To amend Section 23-31-215, M(5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws as follows:

~~A permit issued pursuant to this section does not authorize a permit holder to carry a concealable weapon into a school or college athletic event not related to firearms.~~

Section II: To amend Section 23-31-215 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to read:

(V) Students shall be allowed possession of a concealed firearm on college and university campuses if an educational course is provided and passed.

1. South Carolina college and university residents who meet state requirements as well as take and pass a mandatory university quarter semester course will be permitted to conceal carry on campus.
2. The class provided will be taken as a credited elective.

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- 3. The class will consist of at least 40 hours of in class education, 10 of those hours being at a gun range. The class will also require students to be evaluated by a university mental health counselor.
- 4. The class will be taught by an accredited faculty member with a concealed carry permit, joined by a campus police officer trained on gun safety.
- 5. The decision whether to create a concealed firearms educational course and to allow concealed weapons on campus may be left to the individual universities themselves.

Section III: This bill will take effect on July 1st, 2019.

A Bill
Presented by Brett Richardson
Coastal Carolina University

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- 5 **Purpose:** To expand democratic participation by establishing automatic voter registration.
6
- 7 **Whereas,** Nearly a quarter of the voting age population in South Carolina is not registered to
8 vote, and only two thirds of registered voters in South Carolina participated in the
9 2016 election; and,
10
- 11 **Whereas,** Automatic voter registration has been implemented in Georgia, West Virginia,
12 Maryland, Alaska, Illinois, Michigan, Nevada, Colorado, California, Oregon,
13 Washington, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District
14 of Columbia; and,
15
- 16 **Whereas,** Georgia ranked 36th in voter participation in the 2014 midterm elections, and after
17 implementing automatic voter registration in 2016, their voter participation
18 ranking improved to 12th for the 2018 midterm elections; and,
19
- 20 **Whereas,** By comparison, South Carolina ranked 42nd out of 50 in voter participation in the
21 2018 midterm election.
22
- 23 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
24 assembled the following:
25
- 26 **Section I:** Amend Section 7-5-110 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to read: **Persons**
27 ~~must register in order to vote.~~
28 ~~No person shall be allowed to vote at any election unless he shall be registered as~~
29 ~~herein required.~~
30 Persons will be automatically registered to vote upon meeting the eligibility
31 requirements listed in Section 7-5-120.
32
- 33 **Section II:** For the purposes of this bill:
34 A) The term “automatic registration” means a system that registers an individual
35 to vote in elections for elective office in a State, if eligible, by electronically
36 transferring the information necessary for registration from government agencies
37 to election officials of the State so that, unless the individual affirmatively
38 declines to be registered, the individual will be registered to vote in such
39 elections.
40
- 41 **Section III:** Voter Registration Based on New Agency Records
42 A) not later than 15 days after a contributing agency has transmitted information
43 with respect to an individual, ensure that the individual is registered to vote in
44 elections for elective office in South Carolina if the individual is eligible to be
45 registered to vote in such elections; and

1 B) not later than 120 days after a contributing agency has transmitted such
2 information with respect to the individual, send written notice to the individual, in
3 addition to other means of notice established by this bill, of the individual's voter
4 registration status.

5
6 **Section IV:** Voter Registration Based on Existing Contributing Agency Records

7 A) identify all individuals whose information is transmitted by a contributing
8 agency and who are eligible to be, but are not currently, registered to vote in
9 South Carolina

10 B) within 30 days of receipt of such information, send each of those individuals
11 written notice, in addition to other means of notice established by this bill, which
12 shall not identify the contributing agency that transmitted the information but
13 shall include:

- 14 1) an explanation that voter registration is voluntary, but if the individual
15 does not decline registration, the individual will be registered to vote;
- 16 2) a statement offering the opportunity to decline voter registration
17 through means consistent with the requirements of this bill;
- 18 3) a statement offering the individual the opportunity to affiliate or to
19 decline to affiliate or enroll with a political party, along with an
20 explanation that this affiliation is not required to vote in South Carolina;
- 21 4) the substantive qualifications of an elector in South Carolina as listed in
22 the mail voter registration application form for elections for elective office
23 prescribed pursuant to section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of
24 1993, the consequences of false registration, and a statement that the
25 individual should decline to register if the individual does not meet all of
26 those qualification requirements;
- 27 5) instructions for correcting any erroneous information; and
- 28 6) instructions for providing any additional information which is listed in
29 the mail voter registration application form for elections for Federal office
30 prescribed pursuant of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993;

31 C) ensure that each such individual who is eligible to register to vote in elections
32 for elective office in South Carolina is promptly registered to vote not later than
33 45 days after the official sends the individual the written notice under Section
34 (IV) paragraph (B), unless, during the 30-day period which begins on the date the
35 election official sends the individual such written notice, the individual declines
36 registration in writing, through a communication made over the Internet, or by an
37 officially-logged telephone communication; and

38 D) send written notice to each such individual, in addition to other means of
39 notice established by this bill, of the individual's voter registration status.

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41 **Section V:** This bill will take effect on January 1, 2020.

A Bill
Presented by Joshua Brown
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To limit jail time given to those who cannot pay child support.

Whereas, Unpaid child support can put an undue burden on a person who is trying to pay but lacks the money to do so; and,

Whereas, Unpaid child support can lead to jail time, which in return causes that person to lose their job. This then creates a cycle of poverty that is hard to end; and,

Whereas, Child support keeps people who are near the poverty line at the poverty line due to the amount that the party pays is usually more than they can afford; and,

Whereas, A growing number of states such as Alaska, Arkansas, Mississippi, Nevada, North Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin have recently reformed how they handle child support.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 63-17390 of the Code of Laws to read:

Where a respondent shall neglect or refuse to obey an order for support or upon agreement signed by the respondent and approved by the court, and the court is satisfied thereof by competent proof, it may, with or without notice, issue a warrant to commit the respondent to jail until the order is obeyed or until the respondent is discharged by law. *If the order is not obeyed, the respondent cannot be held in jail for more than ten working days.*

Section II: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

A Bill

**Presented by Connie Patrick
Coastal Carolina University**

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Purpose: To provide family leave for workers up to 12 weeks so they are able to bond with their newborn children.

Whereas, Studies on the development and growth of children have shown that early bonding is essential to the development of a child; and,

Whereas, Current South Carolina employee rights do not guarantee that workers are compensated while taking family leave, limiting the time contributed to 4 the development and growth of a newborn; and,

Whereas, According to a 2011 Department of Labor report, half of workers who were eligible for leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) were unable to take the leave due to possible financial loss; and,

Whereas, According to the Department of Labor, six out of ten workers only took partial or unpaid leave due to fear of financial loss; and,

Whereas, Five states, California, Rhode Island, Washington, New Jersey, and New York, and the District of Columbia, all have laws regarding paid family leave.

Whereas, South Carolina has no laws when it comes to ensuring paid family leave for new parents; and,

Section I: Add Section 41-35-20 to read:

- (1) Private and public sector employers are responsible for compensating paid family leave,
- (2) In order to be compensated during paid family leave, employees must have been employed with their employer for more than 12 months or have at minimum 1250 service hours completed.
- (3) Note that both paternity and maternity leave are compensated and each parent receives paid family leave.
- (4) It is the employer’s responsibility to ensure their employees are compensated during the time they are on paid family leave.
- (5) Employers are responsible for paying the average earned income distributed in one pay period from the course of the previous year.
- (6) In the case a newborn is adopted, their legal guardians are entitled to receive paid family leave.
- (7) Employees are provided 6 weeks of paid leave and 6 weeks of unpaid leave.

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:

A) Paid family leave shall be defined as a period of time an employee is compensated for their time off from work when caring for an individual.

- 1 B) Maternity shall be defined as: A person who is responsible for the
- 2 upbringing of a newborn known as a legal guardian.
- 3 C) Paternity shall be defined as: A person who is responsible for the upbringing of
- 4 a newborn known as a legal guardian.
- 5 D) Newborn shall be defined as: A baby between the ages of 0-2 months.
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7 **Section III:** This bill will take effect on July 1st, 2019.

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A Bill
Presented by Christian Snell
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To provide safer roads during and after inclement winter weather.

Whereas, Without proper equipment to clear it snow can cause dangerous accidents; and,

Whereas, With current methods of handling salt, dirt and sand does not melt the ice but attempts to add traction for the tires; and,

Whereas, Bad weather forces law enforcement to advise South Carolina residents to stay home; and,

Whereas, This may cause 406,536 local business in the state to shut down, hurting our state economy.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 12-28-2720 to read:

Distribution of gasoline user fee to Department of Transportation and general fund.

Section 1: The proceeds from the ten and thirty-four hundredths cents a gallon of the user fee on gasoline only as levied and provide for in this chapter must be turned over to the Department of Transportation for the purpose of ~~that department~~ *purchasing snow removal vehicles and ice melting salt to be distributed to each county. The user fee received will be put towards purchasing snow removal vehicles and ice melting salt until fourteen million dollars are saved.*

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:

A) ‘Snow removal vehicles: A vehicles that has the capability to deposit melting salt onto the ground and a snowplow attached to the front of the vehicle.

B) ‘Melting salt’: salt that is used to lower the freezing point of water.

Section III: This bill shall go into effect on July 1st, 2020

A Bill
Presented by Jimmy Lawler
Coastal Carolina University

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- 5 **Purpose:** To legalize the cultivation, licensed possession, and consumption of medical
6 cannabis.
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- 8 **Whereas,** Studies have shown cannabis is instrumental in curbing the nausea, loss of
9 appetite, and chronic pain caused by chemotherapy and debilitating illnesses.
10 Cannabis use entails a far lower risk of dependence and other health
11 complications caused by opioids; and,
12
- 13 **Whereas,** Cannabis has been shown to relieve muscular discomfort in diseases such as
14 Multiple Sclerosis by the American Academy of Neurology; and,
15
- 16 **Whereas,** 30% of Vietnam veterans, 12% of Gulf War veterans and 11-20% who have
17 served in Iraq and Afghanistan have developed PTSD. Medical Cannabis is not
18 currently prescribed by the VA; and,
19
- 20 **Whereas,** A 2019 study conducted by Benchmark Research showed that 72% of South
21 Carolinians support medical cannabis legalization; and,
22
- 23 **Whereas,** Medical marijuana sales netted approximately \$4.5 billion USD nationwide in
24 2018. As of Jan. 2019, medical cannabis is legal in 33 states. Medical cannabis is
25 taxed in other states at the following rates: States in which medical cannabis is
26 subject to a state tax include Arkansas (4%), Colorado (2.9%), Hawaii (4-4.5%),
27 Illinois (1% (Pharmaceutical)), Michigan (3%), Montana (2%), and New Jersey
28 (9%). In many other states, medical cannabis is exempt from tax.
29
- 30 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
31 assembled the following:
32
- 33 **Section I:** Add Section 44-53-1850 to read:
34 (A) A licensing board for applicants to become a medical cannabis dispensary
35 will be established by the Department of Health and Environmental Control.
36 (B) Applicants will be subject to background checks conducted by the South
37 Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and are required to pay a \$5,000 dispensary
38 application fee.
39 (C) The decision on a patient's qualification to receive a medical cannabis license
40 will be determined by regulations set by Department of Health and Environmental
41 Control.
42 (D) Medical cannabis must pass through a residual solvent analysis, and a
43 contamination tests of the physical and microbial levels. The laboratory shall also
44 conduct a potency analysis so as to publish the product's THC-9 and CBD levels.

1 Requirements for medical cannabis patient to receive a license from the state will
 2 include a minimum age of 18 years, and a formal diagnosis with a prescription for
 3 medical cannabis from a licensed doctor.
 4

5 **Section II:** Amend Section 44-53-360 to read:
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7 (b) A pharmacist may dispense a controlled substance *including medical cannabis*
 8 *and all of those* included in Schedule III, IV, or V pursuant to either a written
 9 prescription signed by a practitioner, or a facsimile of a written, signed
 10 prescription, transmitted by the practitioner or the practitioner's agent to the
 11 pharmacy, or pursuant to an oral prescription, reduced promptly to writing and
 12 filed by the pharmacist. A prescription transmitted by facsimile must be received
 13 at the pharmacy as it was originally transmitted by facsimile and must include the
 14 name and address of the practitioner, the phone number for verbal confirmation,
 15 the time and date of transmission, and the name of the pharmacy intended to
 16 receive the transmission, as well as any other information required by federal or
 17 state law. Such prescription, when authorized, may not be refilled more than five
 18 times or later than six months after the date of the prescription unless renewed by
 19 the practitioner.
 20

21 (c) No controlled substances included in any schedule may be distributed or
 22 dispensed for other than a medical purpose. No practitioner may dispense *medical*
 23 *cannabis or any* Schedule II narcotic controlled substance for the purpose of
 24 maintaining the addiction of a narcotic dependent person outside of a facility or
 25 program approved by the Department of Health and Environmental Control. No
 26 practitioner may dispense a controlled substance outside of a bona fide
 27 practitioner-patient relationship
 28

29 **Section III:** For the purposes of this bill:
 30

- 31 A) "Cannabis" shall be defined as an item that may be consumed containing one
 32 or more by product of the cannabis plant, including THC-9. Products of
 33 marijuana may exist in flower, oil, wax, or edible form.
 34 B) "Debilitating Condition" shall be defined as an illness that may interfere with
 35 an individual's everyday life. Debilitating illnesses include but are not limited
 36 to: PTSD, Cancer, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, ALS, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's
 37 disease, Arthritis, and Multiple Sclerosis.

38 **Section IV:** In order to allow for the taxation of medical cannabis, amend Section 12-36-2120
 39 to read:
 40

41 Exempted from the taxes imposed by this chapter are the gross proceeds of sales,
 42 or sales price of:
 43

44 (28)(a) Medicine and prosthetic devices sold by prescription, prescription
 45 medicines used to prevent respiratory syncytial virus, prescription medicines and
 46 therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis,

1 cancer, lymphoma, leukemia, or related diseases, including prescription medicines
2 *not including medical cannabis* used to relieve the effects of any such treatment,
3 free samples of prescription medicine distributed by its manufacturer and any use
4 of these free samples;

5
6 **Section V:** Section 44-53-365 shall be amended to read:

7
8 (a) Except as authorized by this article, it shall be unlawful for any person:
9 (1) a controlled substance classified in Schedule I (b) and (c) which is a
10 narcotic drug or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) and in Schedule II which is
11 a narcotic drug is guilty of a felony, *with the exception of a state licensed*
12 *medical cannabis patient.*

13
14 **Section VI:** Consumption of medical cannabis must be restricted to private residential spaces.
15 Public consumption of cannabis by a licensed cannabis patient will be considered
16 in violation of Section 16-17-530 for gross public intoxication.

17
18 **Section VII:** Lawful transportation of medical cannabis in a motor vehicle shall follow the
19 standard set by Section 61-4-110. Open containers in motor vehicle. Medical
20 cannabis must be transported in a sealed package. An opened container of medical
21 cannabis must be transported in the trunk or luggage compartment.

22
23 Section 61-4-110 shall be amended to include medical cannabis:

24
25 It is unlawful for a person to have in his possession, except in the trunk or luggage
26 compartment, beer, wine, *or medical cannabis* in an open container in a motor
27 vehicle of any kind while located upon the public highways or highway rights of
28 way of this State. This section must not be construed to prohibit the transporting
29 of beer or wine in a closed container.

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31 **Section VIII:** This bill will go into effect July 1, 2019 after passage by the General Assembly
32 and signature of the Governor.

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A Bill
Presented by Lukas Little
Coastal Carolina University

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- 5 **Purpose:** To require grocery stores and supermarkets to save expired goods for up to ten
6 days after the “Sell-By” date in order to give them away free of charge.
7
- 8 **Whereas,** Americans throw away \$165 billion in wasted food every year, according to
9 Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic and the Natural Resources
10 Defense Council; and,
11
- 12 **Whereas,** Once a product reaches its expiration date, stores automatically dispose of food or
13 goods that are expired; and,
14
- 15 **Whereas,** Even though a product is expired, it may still be safe to be consumed; and,
16
- 17 **Whereas,** Approximately 15.4 percent of South Carolinians in 2017 lived below the poverty
18 threshold.
19
- 20 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
21 assembled the following:
22
- 23 **Section I:** Amend section 39-25-120 to read:
24
- 25 Promulgation of regulations containing exemptions for food from labeling
26 requirement; effect of Federal regulations.
27
- 28 *(C) Grocery stores and supermarkets shall make products available free of*
29 *charge for ten days once the “Sell-By” dates pass.*
- 30 1) *Each store will be required to store expired food in a separate section*
31 *of the store, away from the good that is still eligible for sale, for ten*
32 *days after the “Sell-By” date.*
- 33 2) *As this program is intended to help individuals in financial need,*
34 *individuals who request the expired food must show proof of needed*
35 *financial assistance, such as an unemployment pay stub or proof of*
36 *needed government assistance.*
- 37 3) *Individuals who request the expired food must sign a state-issued*
38 *liability waiver, stating that it is not the fault of the store or the*
39 *producer if the individual becomes sick.*
- 40 4) *Individuals who are granted the access to the food will be given it free*
41 *of charge.*
- 42 5) *After ten days past the expiration date, the food that is stored and not*
43 *claimed will be discarded.*
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- 45 **Section II:** For the purposes of this bill:

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- A) The term “Sell-By date” is the latest date that a store should sell and display a good for inventory purposes. This is commonly used for packaged food and non-refrigerated items.
- B) The term “Use-By date” is the latest date that a product will remain at its best quality. This is commonly used for refrigerated items, such as meats and dairy.

Section III: This bill will go into effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Shadaisha Hamilton
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To implement a monetary cap on bailable offenses in the state of South Carolina.

Whereas, More than 70% of people, who should be presumed innocent until proven guilty, sit in jails awaiting trial because they are too poor to afford bail; and,

Whereas, Pretrial detention can last for weeks, months or even years; and,

Whereas, In 2015, fewer than 5,000 families in New Orleans together paid \$4.7 million in non-refundable premiums, and black families paid 84 percent of bail premiums and fees city-wide that year; and,

Whereas, The average bail for a Black defendant was \$10,000 higher than for a white defendant, according to a 2010 survey of five US cities; for drug crimes, the difference is \$13,000. The end result: while African-Americans and Latinos together represent 30 percent of the US population, they comprise 50 percent of those in pretrial detention; and,

Whereas, Individuals who are forced to sit in jails because they cannot afford bail causes defendants to plead guilty, whether they are or are not.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To amend 17-15-10 to read:
 To require the execution of an appearance bond in a specified amount with good and sufficient surety or sureties approved by the court pursuant to the following schedule established as a general guide for general sessions court offenses to be used in setting bail for persons charged with bailable offenses:

- (a) For a felony with a maximum penalty of not more than:
 - (i) thirty years, Class A felony, three hundred thousand dollars to four hundred fifty thousand dollars;
 - (ii) twenty-five years, Class B felony, two hundred thousand dollars to three hundred and fifty thousand dollars;
 - (iii) twenty years, Class C felony, one thousand dollars to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars;
 - (iv) fifteen years, Class D felony, fifty thousand dollars to one hundred thousand dollars;
 - (v) ten years, Class E felony, twenty five thousand five hundred dollars to thirty thousand dollars; and
 - (vi) five years, Class F felony, fifteen thousand dollars to seven thousand five hundred dollars;

- (b) for a misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of not more than:
- (i) three years, Class A misdemeanor, two thousand five hundred dollars to five thousand dollars;
- (ii) two years, Class B misdemeanor, one thousand dollars to two thousand five hundred dollars; and
- (iii) one year, Class C misdemeanor, five hundred dollars to one five hundred thousand dollars.

Section II: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Cammie Wolfe
Coastal Carolina University

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- Purpose:** To simplify the process in which birth certificates are created.
- Whereas,** The current way in which birth certificates are done is very particular and does not account for all cases and situations; and,
- Whereas,** In South Carolina there was a couple who had a years long legal battle with the Department for Health and Environmental Control to get both parents names on the birth certificate of their child; and,
- Whereas,** If the couple in question were heterosexual couple this would not have even happened and discrimination like this should not be happening still; and,
- Whereas,** If a parent were to bring a child to the hospital but not be listed as the parent on the birth certificate they would not be able to seek care for the child due to not having legal rights of the child; and,
- Whereas,** This would make the process of childcare much less complicated for parents, step-parents in particular, if it were to be passed; and,
- Whereas,** Something similar to this is how three states so far have added options onto documentation for people to mark their identification as something other than just “male” or “female”.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** To Add Section 44-63-182 to read:
To require the Department of Health and Environmental Control to change the way in which birth certificates are formatted. Birth certificates will no longer the distinction between “mother” and “father” but rather it would just have two different lines for them to sign where each one will be labeled “parent”.
- Section II:** This bill will go into effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

Bylaws of the South Carolina Student Legislature

Article I Meetings

Section 1. Notice of all meetings shall be given no less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Spring Session

- A. Each Delegation in attendance is entitled to one vote for the following purposes:
 - 1. Amendments or revisions of the Bylaws;
 - 2. Election of Fall Session Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen in accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;
 - 3. Any other business deemed by the Executive Committee to be pertinent to the South Carolina Student Legislature.

Section 3. Fall Session

- A. No more than two (2) of these delegates shall serve in the Senate and the remainder shall compose the House Delegation. Each serving delegate shall be entitled to one vote.
- B. Delegates must be present in order to cast a vote. A student from the delegate's institution may step in to vote for a missing delegate provided that the student pays his registration fees prior to voting.
- C. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall obtain from each member delegation a statement signed by the registrar of that institution listing the number of full-time undergraduate students.
 - 1. The enrollment statement must be received before Fall Session ends on the final day in order for the delegation to receive its full quota of members.
 - 2. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall calculate membership allowed for each delegation and inform the delegation chairmen of their findings regarding the populations and votes allotted to each school. Reapportionment of the chairmen shall occur at every Fall Session.
 - 3. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall make the number of voting members as well as the total number of full-time undergraduate students available to all of the delegations have membership in the South Carolina Student Legislature.
 - 4. Any delegation tardy in the provision of its enrollment statement or found falsifying its enrollment statement shall be punished by the suspension of member votes. The Executive Committee shall determine the specific number.
- D. Legislation
 - 1. Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by order of the Executive Committee;
 - 2. Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:
 - i. Be approved the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
 - ii. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all legislation found in the bill book.
 - iii. All legislation presented to the Governor will be signed or vetoed and returned to the chamber in which it originated prior to the time scheduled for adjournment of the Senate and House. Each chamber may, by a two-thirds vote, extend its session and consider only those pieces of legislation vetoed and returned by the Governor.
 - iv. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and vetoed by the Governor, subsequent to the adjournment of the regular session of the Senate and House, may be sent to the

chamber in which it originated during an extended session held in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, G, 10 of this document.

v. Any legislation passed by the Senate and the House and not signed or vetoed by the Governor after the final adjournment of the Senate and House, including any extended session, shall be considered approved by the Governor and ordered printed in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions."

E. Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not serve in the opposite chamber unless under extenuating circumstances as approved by the Executive Committee. However, the replacement may not vote or participate in debate on bills he has already debated and voted on. The replacement may also not run for any awards from the House once he has joined the Senate.

Section 4. Interim Meetings

- A. Interim meetings shall be called by the Executive Committee between Sessions in order to carry on the business of the organization;
- B. The executive committee shall call at least two (2) Interim Meetings a year;
- C. On all items of business conducted at an Interim Meeting, each Delegation in attendance shall be allowed one vote.

Article II Supreme Court

Section I. Election of members of Supreme Court:

- A. The members of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice shall receive resumes and choose the Associate Justices prior to the Spring Session. No more than two (2) justices shall be chosen from the same delegation.

Article III Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall:

- A. Consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House, and shall be chaired by the Governor;
- B. Approve all officers appointed by the Governor;
- C. Call all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
- D. Be responsible to plan all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
- E. Review and approve an annual budget;
- F. Appoint three (3) members-at-large- to the Constitutional Committee;

Section 2. The Finance Committee Shall:

- A. Consist of the Treasurer, the Governor, and the Speaker of the House, and be chaired by the Treasurer;
- B. Prepare the annual budget no later than the last Interim meeting before Fall Session;
- C. Set and levy registration fees;
- D. Solicit funds for South Carolina Student Legislature
- E. Approve all disbursements and reimbursements;
- F. Review and revise the Treasurer Manual before Spring Session annually

Section 3. The Trial Committee Shall:

- A. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court and all Delegation Chairmen of the member schools, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;

- 1 B. Hear all parties involved in an impeachment and shall convict or acquit the accused;
- 2 C. In the event that the Chief Justice of the court is unable to serve under this provision, the remaining
- 3 committee members shall replace him with an Associate Justice to be confirmed by the Executive
- 4 Committee.
- 5 D. In the event that a Delegation Chairman is unable to serve, the Vice-Chairmen from his delegation shall
- 6 replace him.
- 7 E. Quorum for the Trial Committee will be three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the member schools.
- 8 F. The Chief Justice of the Court shall call all meetings of the Trial Committee and shall give notice as
- 9 prescribed in Article VI, Section 1;
- 10 G. The accused and the Attorney General shall submit a list of witnesses to the Chief Justice of the Court, who
- 11 shall summon them to the trial.
- 12

13 **Section 4.** The Constitutional Committee Shall:

- 14 A. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court, the Attorney General, and three (3) members-at-large to be
- 15 appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
- 16 B. Not allow any of the members-at-large to be from the same school as the Chief Justice of the Court or the
- 17 Attorney General.
- 18 C. Review, prepare, and circulate any needed amendments or revisions to the Constitution.
- 19

20 **Section 5.** The Election and Awards Committee:

- 21 A. Shall consist of the chairmen of each member delegation.
- 22 B. The Committee shall be chaired by the most senior delegation chair by number of sessions attended.
- 23 C. No member of the Committee who is running for office shall continue to serve on the Committee. In this
- 24 case, the respective Vice Chair of the delegation will take his place on the Committee. In the Case that the
- 25 Vice Chair is also running for office, the replacement shall be appointed by the Governor with the consent
- 26 of the Executive Committee.
- 27 D. Any member of the Committee who has been nominated for an award may not vote on the award(s) that
- 28 they have been nominated for. In this case, the Committee member will step away to allow for discussion
- 29 and voting.
- 30 E. The Secretary of State shall assist the Committee in making preparations and shall be tasked with
- 31 delivering the results to the Governor.
- 32 F. The Secretary of State shall count the ballots in all elections. They are also allowed to appoint one
- 33 Committee member at large to help with this, with the majority consent of the Committee.
- 34 G. Shall oversee the qualification for awards in accordance to Article XIII of the Constitution of the South
- 35 Carolina Student Legislature
- 36 H. Shall submit a teller's report as discussed in Section 44 of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised through
- 37 the Secretary of State and the Committee Chairman. This report shall be delivered to the Executive
- 38 Committee and shall be available to any delegation upon request.
- 39

40 **Section 6.** The Conference Committee shall:

- 41 A. Consists of seven (7) members, three (3) Senators and four (4) Representatives, appointed by their
- 42 respective presiding officers;
- 43 Resolve all differences between legislation passed by both chambers.
- 44

45 **Section 7.** The Fall Session Committees shall:

- 46 A. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the seven (7) committees shall be elected at Spring Session in
- 47 accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;
- 48 B. The Fall Session Committees shall consider all legislation and shall report on the legislation to the
- 49 respective officers of the House and Senate;

- 1 C. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of each committee shall rank all legislation passed through their
2 committee for review by the officers of the chambers.
3

4 **Article IV**
5 **Budget**
6

7 **Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall insure, through the operating budget presented, that the annual
8 expenditure of the South Carolina Student Legislature does not exceed the annual South Carolina Student
9 Legislature revenue. The budget shall include all annual expenditures that are greater than 25 dollars.
10

11 **Section 2.** The Treasurer shall make available for review an annual financial report upon request. The review shall
12 be available by Fall Session.
13

14 **Section 3.** The presentation of the operational budget shall be at the first joint session of the first full eight-hour day
15 of Fall Session. The new operating budget must be passed by the South Carolina Student Legislature General
16 Assembly prior to the conclusion of Fall Session.
17

18 **Section 4.** In the event any one of (1) the operating budget, (2) actual revenues or (3) actual expenditures exceeds
19 Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) the Comptroller General Shall provide for and obtain an annual external audit of
20 the finances of the South Carolina Student Legislature by a reputable certified public accountant for so long as the
21 budget continues to exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000), or as long as the Executive Committee deems it
22 necessary. The Auditor's Report shall be emailed to all chairs within two (2) days of its receipt and be presented and
23 explained by the Comptroller General to the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly as the first order
24 of business at the first joint session of the first full day of the next Fall or Spring Session. The audit report shall also
25 be made available on the South Carolina Student Legislature website.
26

27 **Article V**
28 **Nominations**
29

30 **Section 1.** Nominations shall be by the Secretary of State each day of Spring Session for Chairman and Vice
31 Chairman of each committee listed in Article III. Names shall be listed by position in the order which nominations
32 are received. Chairmen and Vice Chairmen shall be elected by secret ballot. Each Delegation shall be given one vote
33 for each chair and vice chair position. Ballots shall be distributed, collected, counted, and certified by the Secretary
34 of State, the Chief Justice, and the Attorney General on the last day of Spring Session. Results of these elections
35 shall be announced to the delegates before the conclusion of Spring Session.
36

37 **Section 2.** The officers shall be elected by secret ballot, which shall be given to the chair of each Delegation to be
38 completed in accordance with such rules as may have been adopted by the Delegation. The completed ballot shall be
39 submitted to the Election and Awards Committee during the first joint session on the last day of the session as
40 prescribed the Election and Awards Committee.
41

42 **Section 3.** Ballots may be distributed electronically through an internet poll. In the case that internet is not
43 available, ballots will be distributed by paper.
44

45 **Article VI**
46 **Discipline of Officers and Appointments**
47

48 **Section 1. Impeachment**

1 The impeached officer or appointee shall remain in office and he shall have until the next meeting of the members to
2 prepare a defense. The Executive Committee will determine the time between the two meetings thus stated. The
3 officer or appointee in question will have a minimum of 72 hours to prepare a defense.

- 4 A. Following impeachment charges, a hearing consisting of no less than three quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the members,
5 shall be held to consider all charges made against the impeached officer or appointee.
6 B. At the hearing all charges and evidence shall be brought forth in front of the Trial Committee. The
7 impeached officer or appointee shall be afforded a maximum time allotted to deliver a defense, and shall
8 have final remarks before a vote is taken.
9 C. Upon a three quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote of the Trial Committee present, the impeached officer or appointee shall be
10 removed from office.
11 D. Any vacancies by the discipline of the Trial Committee shall be filled according to the method laid out in
12 the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina Student Legislature.
13

14 **Article VII**
15 **Personal Liability**

16
17 **Section 1. Agents in Due Course**

18 An agent of SCSL, who having been given written authority by the Governor or the Executive Committee to
19 contractually obligate the organization, shall sign all contracts in the name of South Carolina Student Legislature.
20 South Carolina shall indemnify and hold harmless any agent acting on this authority.
21
22
23

**The Constitution of the
South Carolina Student Legislature**

**Article I
Name**

Section 1. This organization shall be called the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Article II
Purpose**

Section 1. This organization shall be formed to provide a forum in which students may experience the full range of legislative activity, to promote student input into public policy-making in South Carolina, and to educate students about the functions of democratic government.

Section 2. The motto of this organization shall be “Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility.”

**Article III
Membership**

Section 1. The membership of the South Carolina Student Legislature shall be composed of delegates from South Carolina’s universities and colleges.

Section 2. Each delegation shall select its members from the student body of the institution that it represents.

Section 3. For the purpose of this document, “students” shall be interpreted to all those with the privileges of an undergraduate student at the member institution. No student shall serve as a delegate for more than five (5) years.

Section 4. Delegations may reserve the right to dismiss a delegate during session solely on the basis that the delegate has violated the delegation and/or school conduct rules, has been arrested for a crime while at session, became ill or injured and must return home, or in case of emergency.

Section 5. A delegation shall obtain membership at such time as it pays its registration fees, registers with the Governor, and the state officers approve the registration.

Section 6. A new member delegation shall be defined as a school not having participated previously or for a period of three (3) consecutive years.

Section 7. Upon approval of the registration and the receipt of the dues, the Governor shall issue to delegation an official letter recognizing it as a member delegation.

Section 8. All memberships for the calendar year and shall expire upon the thirty-first (31st) day of December.

Article IV

Officers

- 1
- 2
- 3 **Section 1.** The elected officers of the organization shall be the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor,
- 4 the Speaker of the House, the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro*
- 5 *Tempore* of the House. These officers shall be members of the Executive Committee. In
- 6 addition, the Comptroller General and Fundraising Chair shall be elected officers, but
- 7 shall not be members of the Executive Committee.
- 8
- 9 **Section 2.** In addition to the above officers, the Governor shall appoint, with the consent of the
- 10 Executive Committee, a Secretary of State, and Attorney General, a Treasurer, and a
- 11 Chief Justice of the Court. For the purpose of this document, “consent of the Executive
- 12 Committee” shall mean a majority of the members of the committee.
- 13
- 14 **Section 3.** The governor shall have full power, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to
- 15 create and fill any other officer that the Governor deems necessary to the South Carolina
- 16 Student Legislature.
- 17
- 18 **Section 4.** No person shall hold more than one office at a time.
- 19
- 20 **Section 5.** The officer terms shall coincide with the calendar year.
- 21
- 22 **Section 6.** Each candidate for office shall be a student in good standing with the institution he or she
- 23 attends.
- 24
- 25 **Section 7.** A candidate for the Governor shall have attended two previous sessions prior to the
- 26 session in which the election is being held. The Fall Session during which the elections
- 27 are being held shall not count towards the total of two previous sessions needed. At least
- 28 one of the previous session attended by the candidate shall have been a Fall Session.
- 29
- 30 **Section 8.** A candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, or Comptroller General shall
- 31 have attended two previous sessions prior to the session in which elections are being held, and the
- 32 session in which elections are being held shall not count towards the total of two previous sessions
- 33 needed. Candidates for Lieutenant Governor shall be members of the Senate during in which the
- 34 election is being held. Candidates for Speaker of the House shall be members of the House during
- 35 the session in which election is being held.
- 36
- 37 **Section 9.** A candidate for President *Pro Tempore*, Speaker *Pro Tempore* or *Fundraising Chair* shall
- 38 have attended one previous session prior to the session in which the election is being
- 39 held. The Fall Session during which the elections are being held shall not count towards
- 40 the previous session needed.
- 41
- 42 **Section 10.** In the event that the office of President Pro Tempore or Speaker Pro Tempore shall become
- 43 vacant, the Governor shall nominate a qualified replacement. The replacement shall be confirmed
- 44 by the Executive Committee and shall begin fulfilling the duties of the office immediately.
- 45

Article V

Powers and Duties of Officers

- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49 **Section 1.** The Governor Shall:

1 With the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, have the power to form a
 2 cabinet to perform the duties of the Executive Branch designated to them by the Governor, to
 3 include the following positions and any other designated by the Governor as necessary to the
 4 operations of the South Carolina Student Legislature:

- 5 A. Secretary of State
- 6 B. Attorney General
- 7 C. Chief Justice
- 8 D. Treasurer

9 Have full power, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to create and fill and other
 10 office which the Governor deems necessary to the South Carolina Student Legislature;

11 With the advice of the Executive Committee, have full power to establish and maintain an “Office
 12 of the Governor” for his assistance and to perform the duties designated by the Governor as
 13 necessary to the operations and execution of the powers of the Governor of the South Carolina
 14 Student Legislature.

- 15 A. The Governor shall have full power to appoint a Chief of Staff to manage and coordinate
 16 the operations of the Office of the Governor

17 Represent South Carolina Student Legislature throughout the State of South Carolina and
 18 the United States;

19 Present the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions” to the governor and the General Assembly
 20 of South Carolina;

21 Report to the South Carolina Student Legislature at the Fall Session on the state of the
 22 organization;

23 Preside over all Interim Meetings;

24 Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

25 Sign or veto all legislation that has passed the House and the Senate during Session.

26
 27 **Section 2.** The Lieutenant Governor shall:

28 Assume the duties of the Governor in the event the Governor vacates the office of
 29 Governor or is incapable of fulfilling the duties of the office;

30 Serve as member of the Executive Committee;

31 Preside over the Senate, but shall have no vote except in the event of a tie;

32 With the consent of the Senate, appoint three (3) members of that body, no two (2) of
 33 whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the Conference Committee;

34 Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

35 Be responsible for the publication of the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions;”

36 Be responsible for the compilation and publication of the Bill Book;

37 Be responsible, with the Speaker of the House; for the organization and distribution of a
 38 legislation calendar for Fall Session

39
 40 **Section 3.** The Speaker of the House shall:

41 Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;

42 Preside over the house as a member of the House;

43 With the consent of the House, appoint four (4) members of that body, no two (2) of
 44 whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the Conference Committee;

45 Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

46 Be responsible, with the Lieutenant Governor, for the organization and distribution of a
 47 legislation calendar for Fall Session.

48
 49 **Section 4.** The President *Pro Tempore* shall:

1 Assume the duties of the Lieutenant Governor in the event the Lieutenant Governor
2 vacates the office of Lieutenant Governor or is incapable of fulfilling duties of the office;
3 Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
4 Preside over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.

5
6 **Section 5.** The Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall:
7 Assume the duties of the Speaker of the House in the event the Speaker of the House
8 vacates the office of Speaker of the House or is incapable of fulfilling the duties of the
9 office;
10 Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
11 Preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker of the House.

12
13 **Section 6.** The Secretary of State shall:
14 Assist and advise the Governor in all matters in which the Governor shall need aid;
15 Prepare the minutes and records of interim meetings and Spring Session;
16 Be responsible, with the Attorney General, for the reapportionment of each Delegation
17 prior to Fall Session;
18 Assist the Election and Awards Committee in the execution of their duties as that
19 committee may deem appropriate;
20 Receive the certified results from the Election Chair of the Election and Awards
21 Committee.

22
23 **Section 7.** The Attorney General shall:
24 Serve as Prosecutor before the Trial Committee;
25 Be replaced as Prosecutor if impeached;
26 Serve as a member of the Constitutional Committee;
27 Be responsible, with the Secretary of State, for the reapportionment of each Delegation
28 prior to Fall Session;
29 Determine the constitutionality of legislation, under the Constitution of South Carolina,
30 whose constitutionality has been called into question on the floor. The legislation shall be
31 tabled for review by the Attorney General. Upon decision the Attorney General shall
32 recommend to the body a course of action based on his decision within one hour from
33 when he receives it. In the absence of the Attorney General, the Chief Justice of the
34 Supreme Court shall perform these duties.

35
36 **Section 8.** Chief Justice of the Court shall:
37 Rule on the constitutionality of legislation under the Constitution of the State of South
38 Carolina in the absence of the Attorney General.
39 Preside over the special session of the Supreme Court as outlined in Article VII.
40 Serve as Chairman of the Trial Committee;
41 Serve as Chairman of the Constitutional Committee;
42 Obtain and distribute the trial case to be used in the Supreme Court hearings at session no
43 later than 30 days prior to session.

44
45 **Section 9.** The Treasurer shall:
46 Keep a current account of all funds of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
47 Serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee;
48 Prepare and present the annual operation budget;

49

- 1 **Section 10.** The Fall Session Committee Chairmen shall:
 2 Chair their respective committees at Fall Session;
 3 Serve on the Trial Committee;
 4 Serve as members of the Election and Awards Committee.
 5
- 6 **Section 11.** The Comptroller General shall:
 7 Perform an annual internal audit of the organization and prepare an audit report to be presented to
 8 the SCSL General Assembly in Joint Session.
 9 Present the audit report to the General Assembly as the first order of business at the first joint
 10 session of the first full day of the Fall Session.
 11 Coordinate with external auditors through the course of any external audit of SCSL.
 12 Documented approval from the Comptroller General shall be required for disbursements of more
 13 than \$25. A documented unanimous vote of the Finance Committee may override disapproval
 14 from the Comptroller General. Email or written notation is sufficient to constitute documentation.
 15

16 **Article VI**
 17 **Executive Committee**
 18

- 19 **Section 1.** The Governor shall call all meetings. Meeting times must be approved by
 20 Executive Committee.
 21
- 22 **Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall propose the order of business and business to be
 23 conducted.
 24
- 25 **Section 3.** The meetings shall be:
 26 Spring Session;
 27 Fall Session;
 28 Interim Meetings.
 29
- 30 **Section 4.** Spring Session:
 31 Spring Session shall be presided over by all presiding officers of the Executive
 32 Committee;
 33 Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by the order of the
 34 Executive Committee;
 35 Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:
 36 A. Be approved by the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
 37 B. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all legislation found in the
 38 Bill Book.
 39 The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the
 40 President *Pro Tempore* and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of legislation for the
 41 chambers;
 42 A bill or resolution passing the joint session shall be presented to the Governor for
 43 Approval;
 44 All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor's veto shall be
 45 included in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions;"
 46 Member dues will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of the Finance
 47 Committee.
 48
- 49 **Section 5.** Fall Session:

1 Fall Session shall be an annual student legislature, modeled after the General Assembly
 2 of South Carolina and shall be comprised of a Senate, a House of Representatives, and a
 3 Supreme Court;

4 Elections for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House,
 5 President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House shall be
 6 held as the first order of business at the first joint session on the last day.

7 Each member school shall be represented by a delegation consisting of:

- 8 A. A Chairman, and;
- 9 B. Two (2) delegates per school, and;
- 10 C. One delegate for each 200 full time undergraduate students for the first 1,000 students (5
 11 possible), and;
- 12 D. One delegate for each 1,000 full time undergraduate students from 1,000 to 10,000 (9
 13 possible), and;
- 14 E. One delegate for each 3,000 full time undergraduate students from 10,000 up;
- 15 F. All number shall be rounded up if the numbers exceed by more than 50 percent (50
 16 percent plus 1) the previous population bracket.

17 Legislation:

- 18 A. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall assign each bill or
 19 resolution to a committee;
- 20 B. Legislation which pass committee shall be assigned to its chamber by the Lieutenant
 21 Governor and the Speaker of the House;
- 22 C. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the
 23 President *Pro Tempore* and Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of legislation for their
 24 respective chambers;
- 25 D. Once a bill or resolution passes one chamber, it shall be transferred to the calendar of the
 26 opposite chamber;
- 27 E. A bill or resolution passing both chambers shall be presented to the Governor for
 28 approval;
- 29 F. All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor's veto shall be
 30 included in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions;"
- 31 G. All legislation passed in differing forms in the chambers shall be reviewed and revised by
 32 the Conference Committee.

33 Both chambers shall abide by their respective rules, which shall be amended or revised as
 34 the first order of business when the chambers convene.

35 Only voting members of the Senate and House may be present on their respective floors
 36 unless presenting legislation or appearing by the body.

37 Registration fees will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of the
 38 Finance Committee.

39 40 Article VII 41 The Supreme Court

42 Section 1. Supreme Court

43 The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, any three
 44 of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chief Justice shall
 45 preside, and in his absence, the senior Associate Justice. In all cases decided by the
 46 Supreme Court, the concurrence of three of the Justices shall be necessary of the
 47 judgment below.
 48
 49

- 1 **Section 2.** Jurisdiction of Supreme Court.
- 2 A. The Supreme Court shall have power to review the trial case presented by the Chief
- 3 Justice. The ruling of the Supreme Court will determine brief awards which are outlined
- 4 in Article XII of the Constitution of South Carolina Student Legislature.
- 5 B. The Supreme Court shall constitute a court for the correction of errors at law under such
- 6 regulations as the General Assembly may prescribe.
- 7 C. If legislation is passed and signed into law but its constitutionality under the Constitution
- 8 of South Carolina is contested, the Chief Justice shall call a special session of the
- 9 Supreme Court to review the law. The special session may be called no sooner than six
- 10 (6) hours following the question of the law's constitutionality with exception to the last
- 11 day of session. Where it will be reviewed at the earliest possible time. The review process
- 12 will allow the delegate who has questioned the constitutionality of legislation to present
- 13 his argument before the Supreme Court and the legislation author to refute these
- 14 arguments. The legislation author may receive help from his delegation for his defense.
- 15 The Supreme Court shall publish a decision no later than one (1) hour following the
- 16 hearing.

17

18 **Article VIII**

19 **Committees**

20

- 21 **Section 1.** The Fall Session Committees shall consist of:
- 22 A. The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- 23 B. The Committee on Education;
- 24 C. The Committee on Judiciary;
- 25 D. The Committee on Labor, Commerce, and Industry;
- 26 E. The Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public
- 27 Administration;
- 28 F. The Committee on Miscellaneous;
- 29 G. The Committee on Ways and Means.
- 30

31 **Article IX**

32 **Finances**

33

- 34 **Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall, each year, through the office of the Treasurer, provide
- 35 the South Carolina Student Legislature with an annual operating budget. The presentation
- 36 of the annual operating budget shall be done by the Treasurer to the General Assembly
- 37 during Fall Session.
- 38

39 **Article X**

40 **Elections**

41

- 42 **Section 1.** An officer shall be elected by a majority of the legal ballots cast.
- 43
- 44 **Section 2.** The Senate and the House of Representatives shall elect the Governor, and the Lieutenant
- 45 Governor.
- 46
- 47 **Section 3.** The Senate shall elect the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate.
- 48
- 49 **Section 4.** The House of Representatives shall elect the Speaker of the House and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*

1 of the House.
2

3 **Section 5.** The Chair of the Election and Awards Committee shall preside over the elections. In the event that
4 the Chair of the Election and Awards Committee is running for office, he shall resign as Chair of
5 the Election and Awards Committee, and the Governor shall appoint a replacement with the
6 consent of the Executive Committee.
7

8 **Section 6.** The Elections shall be conducted as follows:
9 A. All candidates shall be listed on an official election ballot(s) as deemed official by the
10 Election and Awards Committee.
11 B. All Ballots shall be handed out to the respective delegation chairs proceeding the last
12 joint session of the Session.
13 C. One Ballot shall be given to each delegation chair for each member of that delegation,
14 based on the number of votes assigned to that delegation in accordance with Article VI of
15 this Constitution.
16 D. A delegate can only place his name on the ballot for a single office and cannot be listed
17 more than once.
18 E. The candidates will be listed on the Ballot in the order than their nominations are
19 received by the assembly.
20 F. Ballots which do not clearly identify the preference of the vote shall not be counted.
21

22 **Article XI**
23 **Discipline of Officers**
24

25 **Section 1.** Any elected or appointed officer may be removed from office for the following:
26 Failure to discharge the duties of his office;
27 Behavior determined by the body to be demeaning to the integrity of the South Carolina Student
28 Legislature.
29

30 **Section 2.** Specific charges against the officer must be presented at any meeting of the Trial Committee.
31 Upon a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the present committee members, the officer in question shall be
32 impeached.
33

34 **Article XIII**
35 **Awards**
36

37 **Section 1.** The Carlisle Award is given annually at Fall Session in honor of the founder of the South Carolina
38 Student Legislature, Dr. Douglas Carlisle. The Carlisle Award is awarded to the delegate of
39 Officer who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, best represents the ideals of the South
40 Carolina Student Legislature.
41

42 **Section 2.** The Best Senator Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Senator who shows himself to be
43 an accomplished speaker and conscientious statesman. The Senators shall nominate candidates for
44 the Best Senator Awards and then each Senator shall cast one vote for one of the nominees. The
45 Lieutenant Governor shall cast a vote in case of a tie. The Election and Awards Committee shall
46 administer the ballots.
47

48 **Section 3.** The Best Representative Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Representative who shows
49 himself to be an accomplished speaker and conscientious statesman. The Representatives shall

1 nominate candidates for the Best Representative Award and then each Representative shall cast
 2 one vote for the on of the nominees. The Speaker of the House shall cast a vote in case of a tie.
 3 The Election and Awards Committee shall administer the ballots.
 4

5 **Section 4.** The Best Legislation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Author whose legislation, in
 6 the opinion of Election and Awards Committee, best manifests thorough research, topicality, and
 7 excellent use of language. The committee is not limited to bills presented to the House or Senate.
 8

9 **Section 5.** The Best Delegation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the small, medium and large
 10 delegation that, in the opinion of the Elections and Awards Committee, best exemplified cohesion
 11 and activity.
 12 A. A small delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current population
 13 of 2,000 students or less.
 14 B. A medium delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current
 15 population between 2,001 and 8,000 students.
 16 C. A large delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a population over
 17 8,001 students.
 18

19 **Section 6.** The Chad M. Beatty Award is given annually at Fall Session to the outstanding non-officer senior
 20 as decided by the Elections and Awards Committee.
 21

22 **Section 7.** The Blake Alexander Campbell Memorial Award is given annually at Fall Session to a freshman
 23 Representative or Senator who, in the opinion of the Election and Awards Committee and the
 24 Executive Council, shows himself to be a positive representative for the future of SCSL through
 25 statesmanship, honor, courage and integrity.
 26

27 **Section 8.** The Best Written Brief award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s) who, in the
 28 opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows exceptional legal writing skills.
 29

30 **Section 9.** The Best Oral Argument award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s) who, in the
 31 opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows excellent use of language skills,
 32 communication skills, and the art of advocacy.
 33

34 **Article XIII** 35 **Parliamentary Authority**

36
 37 **Section 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order; Newly Revised* shall govern
 38 the South Carolina Student Legislature in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they
 39 are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules this organization may adopt.
 40

41 **Section 2.** The parliamentary authority prescribed in their respective rules shall govern the Senate and House.
 42

43 **Article XIV** 44 **Equality**

45
 46 **Section 1.** Any occurrence of pronouns throughout this document shall not be deemed gender specific.
 47

48 **Section 2.** No delegate shall be discriminated against in any way on the basis of gender, race, religion, creed,
 49 sexual orientation, gender identity, or age.

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Article XV
Amendment of the Constitution and Bylaws

Section 1. Any member may present amendments to the constitution or bylaws at any join meeting at either Fall or Spring Sessions.

Section 2. Approved Constitutional amendments must be ratified by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members of the South Carolina Student Legislature. Approved Bylaw amendments must be ratified by a majority vote of the delegation chairs. Upon approval, the Secretary of State shall declare such amendments to be in effect.

Article XVI
Preemption of Constitution and Bylaws

Section 1. Members of the South Carolina Student Legislature are bound by the Constitution and Bylaws. The Constitution shall hold precedence over the Bylaws in all matters. The Bylaws shall not preempt or supersede the Constitution.