

NO. 11

JOURNAL
OF THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017

Wednesday, January 25, 2017
(Statewide Session)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

The Senate assembled at 12:00 Noon, the hour to which it stood adjourned, and was called to order by Acting President, Senator SETZLER.

A quorum being present, the proceedings were opened with a devotion by the Chaplain as follows:

Romans 8:28

“We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Let us pray.

Almighty and sovereign God, your guiding hand has allowed us to grow, change and mature as the people of this great State. As we have just witnessed, this process has produced unexpected political events that surprise us but not You O God. You see clearly what we see dimly. Your providential power is omnipresent in every aspect of our lives. Many Senators here today have felt and known first hand this providential power in their own life journey to the Senate.

Now we see this in an extraordinary way as we experience the orderly transfer of leadership at the highest level of our state government: Governor Nikki Haley becomes the US Ambassador to the United Nations; Lt. Governor Henry McMaster becomes the Governor of our beloved State. Both of them are entering unknown territory with Your blessing and the blessing of this legislative Body. It is now and in the days ahead, that we pray fervently for Your hand to continue to guide their steps so that their actions will clearly be:

A product of Your grace

A reflection of Your will

And a glorification of Your holy name

We offer this prayer with the assurance of Your divine love and care,
Amen.

The Acting President called for Petitions, Memorials, Presentments of Grand Juries and such like papers.

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COMMUNICATION RECEIVED

January 24, 2017

Mr. Jeffrey S. Gossett
Clerk of the Senate
South Carolina Senate
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Re: Resignation as Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Please permit this letter to serve as official notice of my resignation from the office of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*. This resignation is effective immediately.

As you know, serving as PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* of the Senate is voluntary. Consequently, the Senate's legal counsel has opined that this resignation is fully consistent with the PRESIDENT's *Pro Tempore* duties under the South Carolina Constitution. Additionally, the Senate's legal counsel has related that this resignation is effective upon your receipt of this letter, either electronically or via hard copy, and that no further action is then required to effectuate the resignation.

I thank the Senate for the honor and privilege of serving for over two and one-half years as PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*. As I have done since 1980, I look forward to continuing to serve in the Senate in the interests of the citizens of Senate District 31 and, indeed, the citizens across all of South Carolina.

Respectfully,

Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr.

Election of the PRESIDENT *PRO TEMPORE*

On motion of Senator CAMPBELL, the Senate proceeded to the election of the PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Senator SETZLER announced that nominations for the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* were in order.

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Nomination

Senator MARTIN was recognized to make nominating remarks and placed the name of Senator BRYANT into nomination for the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Senator MALLOY seconded the nomination of Senator BRYANT and moved that the nominations be closed and that the Senate procede to a vote.

Remarks to be Printed

On motion of Senator SHEHEEN, with unanimous consent, the remarks of Senators MARTIN and MALLOY, when reduced to writing and made available to the Desk, would be printed in the Journal.

The question then was the election of Senator BRYANT to the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Whereupon, the acting PRESIDENT announced that Senator BRYANT was elected to the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Recorded Vote

Senators CAMPSER and DAVIS desired to be recorded as abstaining from the vote.

Privilege of the Floor

On motion of Senator DAVIS with unanimous consent, the Privilege of the Floor was extended to the family of Senator BRYANT for the administration of the Oath of Office.

Administration of the Oath of Office

PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* of the Senate

Senator BRYANT presented himself at the Bar and the Oath of Office was administered by Chief Justice Donald Beatty.

The PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*, Senator BRYANT, addressed the Senate.

Remarks to be Printed

On motion of Senator SHEHEEN, with unanimous consent, the remarks of the PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* when reduced to writing and made available to the Desk, would be printed in the Journal.

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Inauguration of the Honorable KEVIN L. BRYANT

Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina

Senator BRYANT presented himself at the Bar and the Oath of Office was administered by Chief Justice Donald Beatty.

Senate District 3 was vacated.

COMMITTEE SELECTION

In accordance with Rule 19E, the chairmen of the standing committees were updated as follows:

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Shealy, Katrina F., Chairman

PRESIDENT PRESIDES

At 1:02 P.M., the PRESIDENT, Lieutenant Governor Kevin L. Bryant, assumed the Chair.

Election of the PRESIDENT *PRO TEMPORE*

On motion of Senator CAMPBELL, the Senate proceeded to the election of the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

The PRESIDENT announced that nominations for the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* were in order.

Nomination

Senator RANKIN was recognized to make nominating remarks and placed the name of Senator LEATHERMAN into nomination for the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Senator ALEXANDER seconded the nomination.

Senator MASSEY was recognized to make nominating remarks and placed the name of Senator PEELER into nomination for the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

Senator GROOMS seconded the nomination and moved that the nominations be closed and that the Senate proceed to a vote.

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Remarks to be Printed

On motion of Senator GROOMS, with unanimous consent, the remarks of Senators RANKIN and MASSEY, when reduced to writing and made available to the Desk, would be printed in the Journal.

The question then was the election of the PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

The following named Senators voted for Sen. LEATHERMAN:

Alexander	Allen	Campbell
Courson	Cromer	Fanning
Gambrell	Goldfinch	Hutto
Jackson	Johnson	Kimpson
Leatherman	Malloy	Martin
<i>Matthews, John</i>	<i>Matthews, Margie</i>	McElveen
McLeod	Nicholson	Rankin
Reese	Sabb	Scott
Senn	Setzler	Sheheen
Williams		

Total--28

The following named Senators voted for Sen. PEELER:

Bennett	Campsen	Climer
Corbin	Davis	Grooms
Hembree	Massey	Peeler
Rice	Shealy	Talley
Timmons	Turner	Verdin
Young		

Total--16

The following named Senator abstained:

Gregory

Total--1

Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that Senator LEATHERMAN was elected to the office of PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.

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Administration of Oath of Office

Senator LEATHERMAN presented himself at the Bar and the Oath of Office was administered by the PRESIDENT.

The PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* addressed the Senate.

Statement by Senators DAVIS and CAMPSEN

We abstained from today's vote in the Senate electing Senator KEVIN BRYANT to the office of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*, a vote -- given the vacancy that then existed in the office of Lieutenant Governor and the provisions of Article IV, Section 9 of the South Carolina Constitution -- subsequently resulted in Senator BRYANT's immediate ascension to fill that vacant office.

Our abstention is not in any way a comment on the ability of Senator BRYANT to discharge the duties of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* or Lieutenant Governor, as we believe without reservation he is eminently qualified to discharge the duties of both offices; rather, it is intended to make clear our unwillingness to participate in an arranged procedure that allows the immediately previous Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*, Senator HUGH K. LEATHERMAN, SR., to enjoy the powers and rights inherent in that office, yet avoid the discharge of the essential constitutional duty that goes along with enjoying those rights and powers.

As to the proper course of action that ought to be followed in such circumstances, we cannot improve upon the words that were delivered to Members of the Senate by then -- Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* Glenn F. McConnell when he was presented, as Senator HUGH LEATHERMAN was today, with the prospect of discharging the essential constitutional duty of the *Pro Tempore* and ascending to fill the vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant Governor. A transcription of a pertinent portion of his remarks at that time is printed below:

"[I have] Been very insistent about the strict construction of the Constitution and the need for this Senate to test each law for its constitutionality before it moves forward. I have warned about the pitfalls of the unconstitutional act of piggy backing non-germane and totally different subjects on a Bill because of time running out. Our Constitution is very clear on that matter, and bobtailing is a practice which any future PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* will need to be on the lookout for."

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“The standard that I have applied to other things is now what I must apply to myself. You see, I have been doing for the people of Senate District 41 in this State, what I always wanted to do. Giving it up is indeed a sad moment for me.”

“That is why I stand here today somber and a little saddened because of what I will lose today when I take the oath of office as Lieutenant Governor. But for the people of South Carolina, who hear these words today or read them in the future, I want them to know that what I do today should not be considered remarkable. If what I am doing is considered special, then it is a sad indictment of the public’s view of elected officials and our commitment to what is right.”

“Today we remind the public that oaths of office matter and people should and can expect that whoever takes the oath office as PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* will do as they swore to do and fulfill the constitutional duty of becoming Lieutenant Governor, if there is a permanent vacancy in that office.”

“Today I simply perform the duty I swore to do when I took the oath of office as PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore*.”

Stated plainly, the actions taken by the members of the South Carolina Senate today, in regard to filling the vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor occasioned by former Lieutenant Governor Henry McMaster’s ascension to the office of Governor, failed to live up to the constitutional standard articulated by Glenn McConnell, and our abstention registers our opinion in that regard.

Statement by Senator TIMMONS

First, let me thank you Mr. PRESIDENT. I want everyone to understand that I have the utmost respect for all the members who now serve here. However, I believe that this Chamber, the South Carolina State Senate, is failing the people of this State today. Not one person listening on television on ETV or who happens to be here in the audience will disagree with the notion that Columbia is broken.

I ran for the Senate on that issue and we defeated a 37 year incumbent by a 2 to 1 margin. It is the one issue that almost all voters in this State can agree on. You see, many of our constituents have felt disconnected from our state government for quite some time. As a businessman, I have felt that way for as long as I have been in business. That is what

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prompted me to run for office in the first place. I know there are others who sit in this Chamber who can agree -- Columbia is broken. Like me, many of the freshmen Senators campaigned to reform Columbia, to reform the Senate, to uphold the Constitution and ultimately to help fix the State of South Carolina. And yet, just over two weeks into this session, we find ourselves doing the same things that have always been done here. That is a sad state of affairs and, frankly, it is no longer acceptable. I believe our state government has lost its way. I believe this Senate has lost its way. We stand here and discuss reform and transparency and yet we continue to do the exact opposite.

Our roads and bridges are in desperate need of repair. We have stuck our heads in the sand with a dysfunctional Department of Transportation and yet we refuse to enact real reforms to ensure accountability. Our system of taxation is unfair and puts far too much burden on small family businesses and yet real, serious tax reform continually gets overlooked or stays stuck in committee. We have been ordered by the South Carolina Supreme Court to reform the way we fund our schools and educate our children and yet for two years we have ignored that order.

Today, we find ourselves once again playing musical chairs with the State Constitution by voting to give back the full power of the position of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* to the same Senator that also happens to run the Senate Finance Committee. The same Senator who just resigned from that position to avoid fulfilling his constitutional duty to rise to the position of Lieutenant Governor.

I do not care how things have been done in the past -- that is too much power for any one person to hold and quite frankly it is just not right. Again, I want everyone to know, this is not personal. I have the utmost respect for Senator LEATHERMAN. But when we entrust so much of the power of this Body into just one Senator -- we shortchange South Carolina and deprive every other Senator's constituents of truly equal representation. The people of this State deserve better. When we give too much power to just one Senator it is unwise, unnecessary and unjust. Columbia is broken. But how can we fix it?

I campaigned for term limits. I believe the founding fathers intended we maintain a citizen run legislature. I have pledged to serve no more than three terms here in the Senate. Your vote for the position of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* should not be made out of fear. When I have privately asked fellow members where they stand, some have indicated to me that if they vote for someone else, they might lose funding for a key project in their district. Our crumbling roads and bridges provide the perfect metaphor for South Carolina state government today. We

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must first begin to address the foundational problems if we can ever hope to finally fix all the other problems that so adversely affect our State. Ladies and gentleman of the Senate, I believe Columbia is broken, but today, we can make a bold statement that the collective interests of the entire State are always bigger than interests of one Senate district. It is January 25th in the year 2017 and I am here to tell you the people in my district want us all to try something new. Let us all have the courage to do just that. Thank you.

Statement by Senator GREGORY

I abstained from voting in the election of the PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* because I did not support Senator LEATHERMAN stepping down from the position only to stand for it again. In addition, while I am fond of Senator PEELER and appreciate his leadership of the Senate Republican Caucus, I feel that the office of Senate PRESIDENT *Pro Tempore* has traditionally been a non-partisan one, and that it would be difficult for a former Majority Leader to carry its duties out in that manner.

Statement by Senator TALLEY

Today, the South Carolina Senate had the opportunity to show the people of our State that we are willing to take steps to reform state government and begin to restore accountability to our actions in Columbia. While I certainly respect Senator LEATHERMAN for his years of dedicated service to our State, in order for people to trust the work we do in the Senate, we cannot concentrate so much power in one legislative leader. I am hopeful in the years to come we can take steps to change our Senate Rules to reflect the reform and accountability measures the citizens of South Carolina have demanded and deserve.

Doctor of the Day

Senator McELVEEN introduced Dr. Gary Culbertson of Sumter, S.C., Doctor of the Day.

CO-SPONSORS ADDED

The following co-sponsors were added to the respective Bills:

S. 44	Sen. Reese
S. 86	Sen. Rice
S. 219	Sen. Hutto
S. 301	Sen. Rice

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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

The following were introduced:

S. 305 -- Senator Grooms: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE DEPUTY KIMBER GIST, OF THE BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, WHO WAS SHOT IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN FEBRUARY OF 2016.

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The Senate Resolution was adopted.

S. 306 -- Senator Cromer: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO CELEBRATE AND COMMEND PITCHER CARL EDWARDS, JR., OF NEWBERRY COUNTY ON THE INSTRUMENTAL ROLE HE PLAYED IN HELPING THE CHICAGO CUBS WIN THE 2016 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES.

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The Senate Resolution was adopted.

S. 307 -- Senator Shealy: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 38-71-280(A)(1) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO ACCIDENT AND HEALTH INSURANCE, AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER COVERAGE, AND ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS, TO PROVIDE THAT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER MEANS ANY OF THE PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS OR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS AS DEFINED BY THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF THE DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS OR THE EDITION IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF DIAGNOSIS.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance.

S. 308 -- Senators Talley and Rice: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-2946(A) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO SUBMISSION TO TESTING FOR DRUGS AND ALCOHOL, TO PROVIDE THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A PERSON MUST SUBMIT TO CHEMICAL TESTS OF HIS BREATH, BLOOD, OR URINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THE PRESENCE OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH IF THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE PERSON VIOLATED OR IS UNDER ARREST FOR A VIOLATION

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OF SECTION 56-5-2945 OR IF A PERSON WAS KILLED OR REASONABLY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED AS A RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A MOTOR VEHICLE.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 309 -- Senator Malloy: A JOINT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XVII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS, BY ADDING SECTION 16 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY LAW, IN SPECIFIED AREAS OF THE STATE, MAY PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF GAMBLING AND GAMING ACTIVITIES ON WHICH BETS ARE MADE TO INCLUDE PARI-MUTUEL BETTING ON HORSE RACING, SPORTS BETTING ON PROFESSIONAL SPORTS, CASINO ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS CARD AND DICE GAMES WHERE THE SKILL OF THE PLAYER IS INVOLVED IN THE OUTCOME, AND GAMES OF CHANCE WITH THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR GAMING TABLES, ALL OF WHICH MUST BE STRICTLY REGULATED AND MAY BE CONDUCTED IN ONE LOCATION OR IN SEPARATE LOCATIONS WITHIN THE SPECIFIED AREA SUBJECT TO SPECIAL LAWS, INCLUDING CRIMINAL LAWS, ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, APPLICABLE ONLY IN THE SPECIFIED AREA, WITH THE REVENUE REALIZED BY THE STATE TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE STATE'S RETIREMENT SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN A RATIO OF THE ACTUARIAL VALUE OF THE SYSTEMS ASSETS TO THE ACTUARIAL ACCRUED LIABILITY OF THE SYSTEMS THAT IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN NINETY PERCENT, TO PROVIDE THAT ANY REVENUE REALIZED ABOVE THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THAT RATIO SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE STATE'S GENERAL FUND; AND BY PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 8, ARTICLE XVII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS, BY DELETING SECTION 8 WHICH MAKES IT UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON HOLDING AN OFFICE OF HONOR, TRUST, OR PROFIT TO ENGAGE IN GAMBLING OR BETTING ON GAMES OF CHANCE, AND REQUIRES THE OFFICER'S REMOVAL FROM OFFICE UPON CONVICTION, FOR A GAMBLING OFFENSE.

[SJ]

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 310 -- Senator Sheheen: A BILL TO PERMIT THE TOWN OF CAMDEN TO ANNEX CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY BY ORDINANCE UPON FINDING THAT THE PROPERTY IS BLIGHTED.

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Read the first time and ordered placed on the Local and Uncontested Calendar.

S. 311 -- Senator Shealy: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO DECLARE FEBRUARY 26 THROUGH MARCH 4, 2017, AS "EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO COINCIDE WITH NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK AND TO DECLARE THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017, AS "EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY" IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

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The Senate Resolution was introduced and referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

S. 312 -- Senators Hembree and Corbin: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF JANUARY 22 THROUGH JANUARY 28, 2017, AS "NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK IN SOUTH CAROLINA" AND TO CONGRATULATE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND SCHOOL LEADERS FROM K-12 EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS OF ALL VARIETIES FOR THEIR PERSISTENCE, ACHIEVEMENTS, DEDICATION, AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THEIR COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

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The Senate Resolution was adopted.

S. 313 -- Senator Davis: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 4-1-190 SO AS TO ALLOW A COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A WINDSTORM PROTECTION AND HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE PROGRAM TO ASSIST A HOMEOWNER WITH THE FINANCIAL COSTS OF QUALIFIED WIND RESISTANCE IMPROVEMENTS, TO ESTABLISH OPTIONS FOR FINANCING, TO PROVIDE FOR

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CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS THAT MUST BE MADE, TO REQUIRE CERTAIN NOTICE, TO PROVIDE THAT A LIEN FILED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN AD VALOREM TAX, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS TO AN INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES; AND TO ALLOW A LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE CERTAIN FEES.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senator HUTTO from the Committee on Judiciary submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 168 -- Senator Shealy: A BILL TO AMEND SECTIONS 16-15-90 AND 16-15-100 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PROSTITUTION, TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR SOLICITATION OF PROSTITUTION, ESTABLISHING OR KEEPING A BROTHEL OR HOUSE OF PROSTITUTION, OR CAUSING OR INDUCING ANOTHER TO PARTICIPATE IN PROSTITUTION; TO ESTABLISH THE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE OF BEING A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING; AND TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR SOLICITING, CAUSING, OR INDUCING ANOTHER FOR OR INTO PROSTITUTION WHEN THE PROSTITUTE HAS A MENTAL DISABILITY.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Senator GROOMS from the Committee on Transportation submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 198 -- Senators Shealy, Alexander, McElveen and Bryant: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 56-1-100 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO DRIVERS' LICENSES, TO PROVIDE THAT A MINOR MAY APPLY FOR A BEGINNER'S PERMIT, INSTRUCTION PERMIT, OR DRIVER'S LICENSE UNDER THE AUTHORIZATION OF A RESPONSIBLE ADULT WILLING TO ASSUME THE OBLIGATION IMPOSED.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Senator HUTTO from the Committee on Judiciary submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 220 -- Senators Shealy and McElveen: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-920(C) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO

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INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED DURING AN INVESTIGATION OF CHILD ABUSE ALLEGATIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN SHALL BE INTERVIEWED USING A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER NOT RELATED TO THE CHILD, TO ALLOW FOR REMOTE VIDEO INTERPRETATION, AND TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO MAINTAIN A DATABASE OF QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS; AND TO AMEND CHAPTER 25, TITLE 16, RELATING TO CRIMINAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, TO PROVIDE THAT INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED DURING AN INVESTIGATION OF CRIMINAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN WHICH A HEARING IMPAIRED CHILD MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED OR WITNESSED THE ACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MUST BE CONDUCTED WITH THE USE OF A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER NOT RELATED TO THE CHILD.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Senator HUTTO from the Committee on Judiciary submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 245 -- Senators Hutto and Hembree: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-370, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DRUG OFFENSES, SO AS TO CONFORM THE LANGUAGE OF TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS PROVISIONS, INCLUDING OPIATES AND HEROIN, TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE PROVISIONS CONCERNING POSSESSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN ILLEGAL DRUGS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SYNTHETIC OPIATES, AMONG OTHER DRUGS.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Motion Adopted

On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate agreed to stand adjourned.

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MOTION ADOPTED

On motion of Senators SETZLER, COURSON, ALEXANDER, ALLEN, BENNETT, CAMPBELL, CAMPSER, CLIMER, CORBIN, CROMER, DAVIS, FANNING, GAMBRELL, GOLDFINCH, GREGORY, GROOMS, HEMBREE, HUTTO, JACKSON, JOHNSON, KIMPSON, LEATHERMAN, MALLOY, MARTIN, MASSEY, JOHN MATTHEWS, MARGIE BRIGHT MATTHEWS, McELVEEN, McLEOD, NICHOLSON, PEELER, RANKIN, REESE, RICE, SABB, SCOTT, SENN, SHEALY, SHEHEEN, TALLEY, TIMMONS, TURNER, VERDIN, WILLIAMS and YOUNG, with unanimous consent, the Senate stood adjourned out of respect and in honor of the Honorable Henry Dargan McMaster of Columbia, S.C. as he assumes the office of Governor of South Carolina. Governor McMaster became the 91st Lt. Governor on November 4, 2014. McMaster received his AB degree in history in 1969 from the University of South Carolina and his Juris Doctor degree in 1973 from the University of South Carolina School of Law, where he served on the Law Review. He entered private practice in Columbia in 1974 with Tompkins and McMaster. Governor McMaster also previously served South Carolina as Attorney General from 2003-2011. He served on the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education and chaired the South Carolina Republican Party from 1993-2002. Governor McMaster is married to Peggy McMaster, and they have two children, Henry D. McMaster, Jr. and Mary Rogers McMaster. The South Carolina Senate wishes him well as he becomes the 117th Governor of South Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:02 P.M., on motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11:00 A.M.

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