

# **REPORT OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE**

(Cobb-Hunter, Hayes, Ballentine, Willis, Murphy- Staff Contact: Terikah Staggers)

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## **SENATE BILL 291**

S. 291 – Senators Peeler, Alexander, Bennett and Cromer: A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING AUTHORITY TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF STATE GOVERNMENT IF THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BEGINS WITHOUT A GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR Fiscal Year 2025-2026 having been enacted, AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS.

***Received by Ways and Means:***                      ***3/4/2025***

***Summary of Bill:***

An appropriation bill to allow for the State's expenses to be paid for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, if a General Appropriations Act has not been passed by July 1, 2025. This includes the necessary appropriations for timely debt service on state obligations, and other constitutionally required amounts. Upon the enactment of a new general appropriations act, The Joint Resolution will expire.

***Estimated Revenue Impact:***

N/A

***Subcommittee Action/Explanation***

The bill is reported as favorable from the General Government Subcommittee.

***Full Committee Action/Explanation***

***Other Notes/Comments:***

A fiscal impact statement is not required, as S. 291 is an appropriation bill.

**South Carolina General Assembly**  
126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 291**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Peeler, Alexander, Bennett and Cromer

Document Path: SR-0179KM25.docx

Introduced in the Senate on January 29, 2025

Introduced in the House on March 4, 2025

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Ways and Means**

Summary: Continuing Resolution

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Action Description with journal page number</u>
1/29/2025	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 7)
1/29/2025	Senate	Referred to Committee on <b>Finance</b> (Senate Journal-page 7)
2/19/2025	Senate	Committee report: Favorable <b>Finance</b> (Senate Journal-page 13)
2/25/2025	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 26)
2/25/2025	Senate	Roll call Ayes-43 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 26)
2/25/2025		Scrivener's error corrected
2/26/2025	Senate	Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 21)
3/4/2025	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 12)
3/4/2025	House	Referred to Committee on <b>Ways and Means</b> (House Journal-page 12)

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/29/2025](#)

[02/19/2025](#)

[02/25/2025](#)

1 COMMITTEE REPORT  
2 February 19, 2025

**S. 291**

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6 Introduced by Senators Peeler, Alexander and Bennett

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8 S. Printed 2/19/25--S.

[SEC 2/25/2025 4:18 PM]

9 Read the first time January 29, 2025

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13 **THE COMMITTEE ON SENATE FINANCE**

14 To whom was referred a Joint Resolution (S. 291) to provide for the continuing authority to pay the  
15 expenses of state government if the 2025-2026 fiscal year begins without a General Appropriations Act  
16 for Fiscal, etc., respectfully

17 **REPORT:**

18 That they have duly and carefully considered the same, and recommend that the same do pass:

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20 HARVEY PEELER for Committee.

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## A JOINT RESOLUTION

TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING AUTHORITY TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF STATE GOVERNMENT IF THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BEGINS WITHOUT A GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 HAVING BEEN ENACTED, AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. (A) If the 2025-2026 State Fiscal Year begins with no annual appropriations act in effect for that year, then the authority to pay the recurring expenses of state government continues at the level of amounts appropriated in Act 226 of 2024 for the recurring expenses of state government for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 except as provided in subsection (B).

Non-recurring appropriations contained in Act 226 of 2024 are deemed to have been made and are not subject to funding pursuant to this act.

Study committees formed and authorized pursuant to Act 226 of 2024 are deemed to have completed their work and are dissolved unless authorized by another act of the General Assembly.

The effective dates of Parts IA and IB of Act 226 of 2024 are extended until the effective date for appropriations made in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, after which appropriations made pursuant to this joint resolution are deemed to have been made pursuant to the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

(B) Notwithstanding debt service appropriations in Act 226 of 2024 and until the effective date of the appropriations made in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, there is appropriated from the general fund of the State whatever amount is necessary for the timely debt service on state obligations and other amounts constitutionally required to be appropriated, including the Capital Reserve Fund. The General Reserve fund is established in the amount required by law.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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