



SOUTH CAROLINA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &  
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Amended Meeting Packet  
March 19, 2025

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# Agenda



**SOUTH CAROLINA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &  
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Chair Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson

Vice-Chair Chris Wooten

Lucas Atkinson  
William H. Bailey  
Phillip Bowers  
Gary S. Brewer Jr.  
Kambrell H. Garvin  
Leon Douglas “Doug” Gilliam

Wendell K. Jones  
Kathy Landing  
John R. McCravy III  
Annie E. McDaniel  
Timothy A. “Tim” McGinnis  
Travis A. Moore

Scott Montgomery  
Michael Rivers  
Richard B. “Blake” Sanders  
Marvin “Mark” Smith  
Robert Williams  
Paul B. Wickensimer

Lewis Carter  
Research Director

Charlie LaRosa  
Research Analyst

Cathy Greer  
Administrative Coordinator

Roland Franklin  
Legal Counsel

Riley McCullough  
Research Analyst

Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
Telephone: (803) 212-6810 Fax: (803) 212-6811  
Room 228 Blatt Building

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## AMENDED AGENDA

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Wednesday, March 19, 2025

1:30PM

516 – Blatt Building

### **PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY**

- I. Approval of minutes
- II. Opportunity for public input about the South Carolina Conservation Bank; South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce; South Carolina Tuition Grants Commission; South Carolina Department of Education; South Carolina Department of Insurance; South Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation; South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division; and South Carolina Administrative Law Court.

MEETING PROTOCOL: To provide testimony, you must register in advance no later than 9:00 a.m. on March 19, 2025. Please plan to limit comments to three to five minutes.

- Call the Government Efficiency and Legislative Oversight Committee at 803-212-6810 or email the Committee at [hcommlegov@schouse.gov](mailto:hcommlegov@schouse.gov) to register to provide testimony.
- Click [here](#) for general information about providing testimony to the Committee.
- Click [here](#) for a survey regarding agencies under study.

- III. Adjournment

# Minutes



**SOUTH CAROLINA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &  
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Chair Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson

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## MEETING MINUTES

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024  
11:30am  
Room 110 – Blatt Building

### Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.7, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly’s website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on Committee Postings and Reports, then under House Standing Committees click on Legislative Oversight. Then, click on Video Archives for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

### Attendance

- I. The Government Efficiency and Legislative Oversight Committee meeting was called to order by temporary presiding chairman, John R. McCravy, III, on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building. All committee members were present for all or a portion of the meeting except the following: Rep. Annie E. McDaniel and Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.

### Committee Organization

- I. The meeting begins with Representative John R. McCravy, III, serving as temporary chair, introducing the session and inviting participants to introduce themselves.

- II. The committee held elections for committee chairman. Rep. Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson was nominated by Rep. Chris Wooten, and he was elected as chair by acclamation.

Rep. Wooten’s motion to elect Rep. Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson, as committee chair, close nominations, and elect him by acclamation.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		
Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓
Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

- III. The committee held elections for committee vice-chairman. Rep. Chris Wooten was nominated by Rep. Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson, and he was elected as chair by acclamation.

Rep. Johnson’s motion to elect Rep. Chris Wooten, as committee vice-chair, close nominations, and elect him by acclamation.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		

Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓
Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

- IV. The committee discussed and adopted the vision and mission statements. A motion was made by Rep. Chris Wooten to approve the vision and mission statements.

Rep. Smith motion to approve the committee rules.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		
Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓
Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

- V. The committee discussed and adopted the committee rules with the addition of provisions for virtual testimony. A motion was made by Rep. William Bailey to approve the committee rules.

Rep. Smith motion to approve the committee rules.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Smith motion to approve the committee rules.			

Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		
Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓
Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

VI. The committee talked about recommendations for agency reviews scheduled for 126<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, emphasizing the need to publish this information in the House Journal. A motion was made by Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith to approve the following agencies for review as recommended: South Carolina Conservation Bank; South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce; South Carolina Department of Insurance; South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department; South Carolina Administrative Law Court; South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division; South Carolina Tuition Grants Commission; and South Carolina Department of Education.

Rep. Smith motion to approve the committee rules.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		
Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓



Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

**Minutes**

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings.

**Approval of Minutes**

- I. Representative McCravy made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Wednesday, October 23, 2024, meeting. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Rep. McCravy's motion to approve the minutes from the Wednesday, October 23, 2024, meeting.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson	✓		
Rep. Chris Wooten	✓		
Rep. Lucas Atkinson	✓		
Rep. William H. Bailey	✓		
Rep. Phillip Bowers	✓		
Rep. Gary S. Brewer, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Kambrell H. Garvin	✓		
Rep. Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Wendell K. Jones	✓		
Rep. Kathy Landing	✓		
Rep. John R. McCravy, III	✓		
Rep. Anne E. McDaniel			✓
Rep. Timothy A. "Tim" McGinnis	✓		
Rep. W. Scott Montgomery, IV	✓		
Rep. Travis A. Moore	✓		
Rep. Michael F. Rivers, Sr.			✓
Rep. Richard B. "Blake" Sanders	✓		
Rep. Marvin "Mark" Smith	✓		
Rep. Paul Wickensimer	✓		
Rep. Robert Q. Williams	✓		

**Adjournment**

I. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.

DRAFT

# Agency Survey Summaries

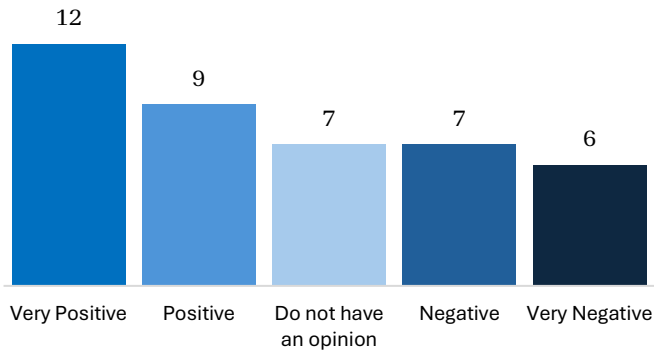
# Administrative Law Court



South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

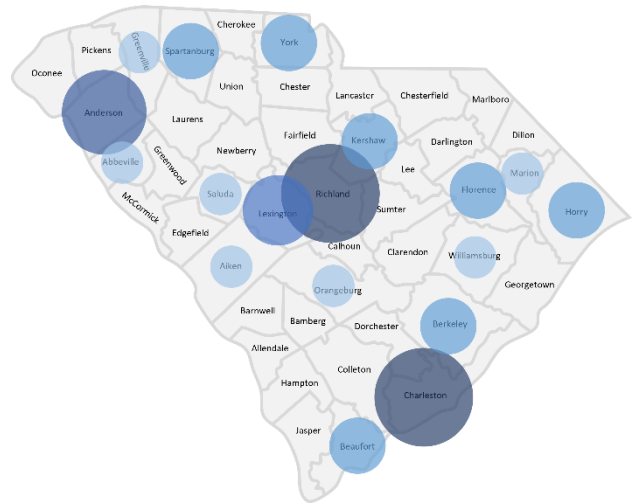
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT – 41 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

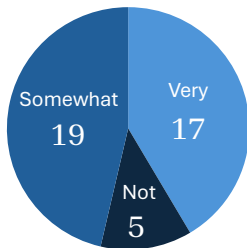


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

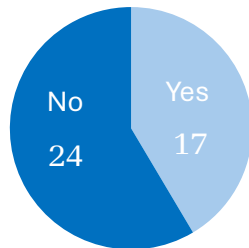
The larger circles indicate more responses.



FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



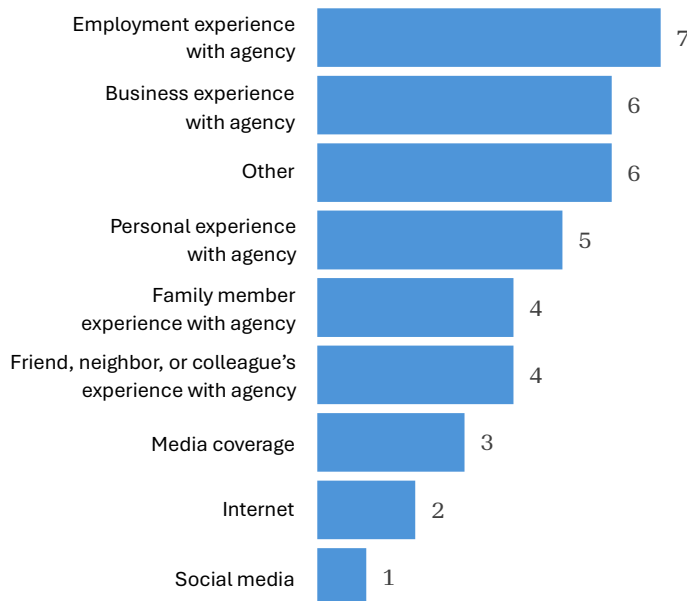
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Respondents find the Administrative Law Court to be generally well-run, with professional and knowledgeable staff.
- Positive comments highlight that the court is vital to every citizen and provides an essential avenue for resolving issues with state agencies.
- Judges are praised for their competence and fairness, and the online system is described as user-friendly and efficient.
- There are several criticisms regarding fairness and accountability.
- Multiple respondents stated that “judges rule in whatever favor benefits themselves personally the best” and that the court is not “fair and balanced if an individual has a complaint but happens to work at a state-owned agency.”
- Others criticize the court for siding with state agencies even when “documented evidence” suggests wrongful termination.
- The website is described as outdated.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



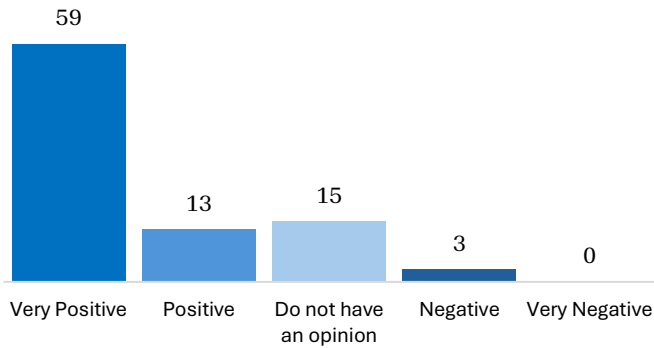
# Conservation Bank



South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

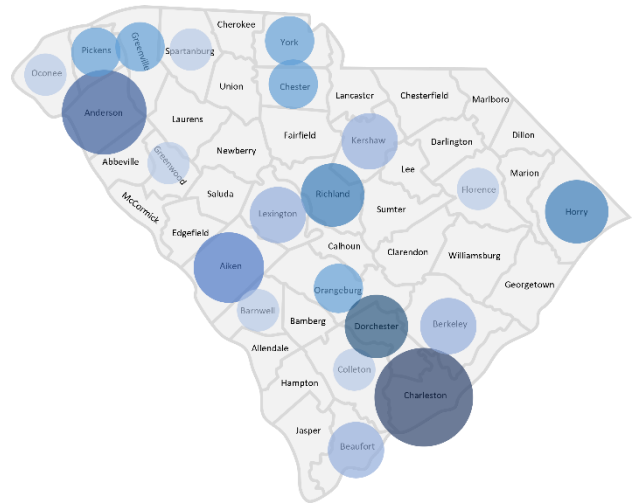
CONSERVATION BANK – 90 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

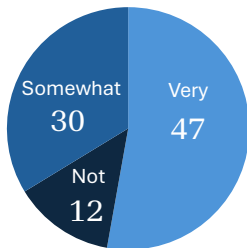


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

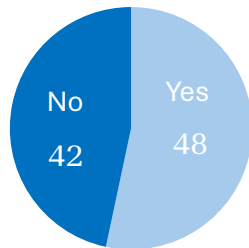
The larger circles indicate more responses.



FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



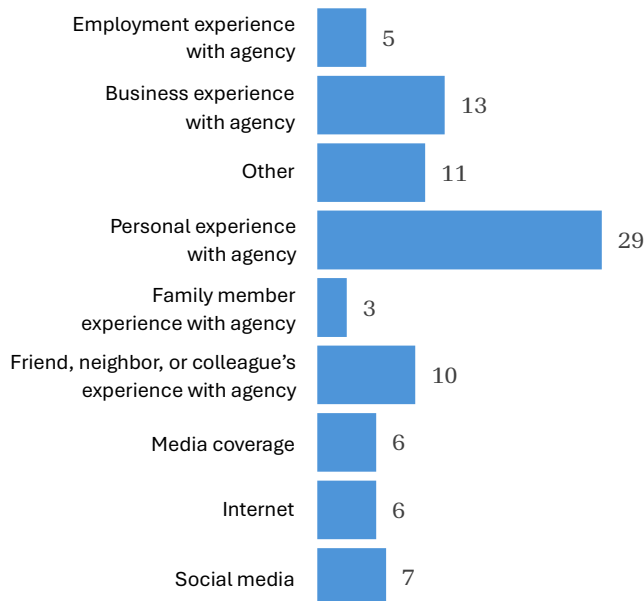
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Respondents view the South Carolina Conservation Bank (SCCB) as an effective, well-run agency that plays a critical role in conserving the state’s natural resources.
- Many highlighted the professionalism and expertise of the staff and board, noting that the SCCB is “efficient” and “streamlined” in processing grants and funding projects.
- Respondents also commended the leadership, with SCCB Director Raleigh West described as “thoughtful, calculated, and resourceful” in his approach to conservation.
- However, some concerns were raised about improving internal processes and outreach.
- One respondent suggested that SCCB should “reduce project timelines and eliminate duplication of efforts” through better coordination with other state agencies.
- Respondents also called for greater public outreach.
- Some respondents expressed frustration with transparency and access to information.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY





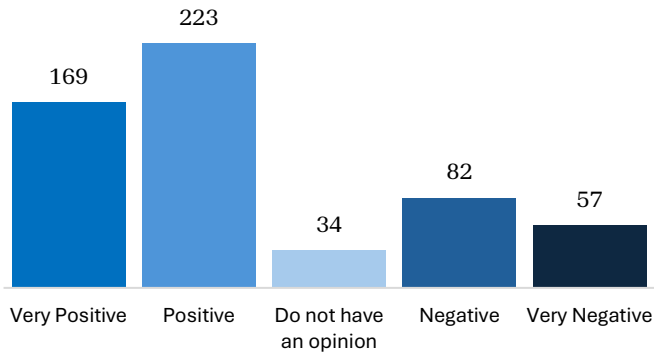




South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

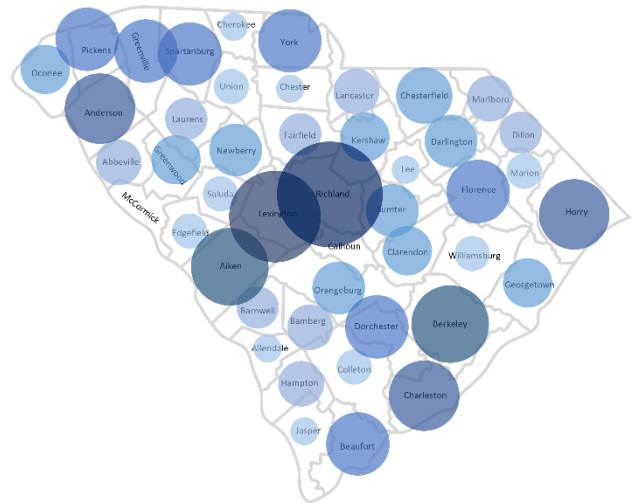
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - 577 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

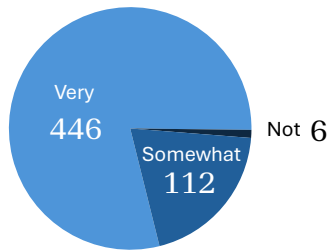


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

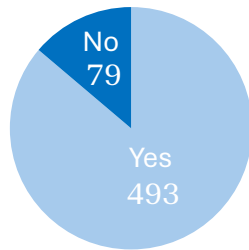
The larger circles indicate more responses.



FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



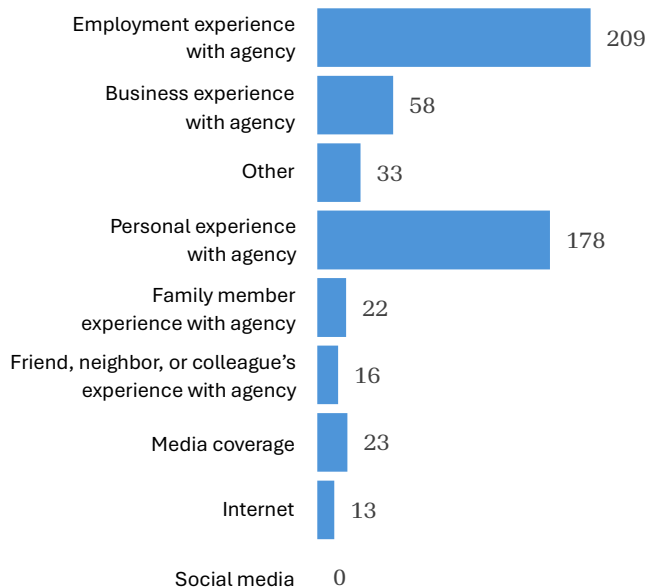
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Survey responses were mainly positive for Department of Education in regard to agency staff and Superintendent Weaver.
- Negative responses from the survey were based on political viewpoints on education in the state, and not necessarily on the view of daily agency operations by Superintendent Weaver and her team.
- Public responses ranged from citizens, educators, and those that work within the Department of Education.
- Some responses raised question on the Superintendent position requirements set in statute and whether the Superintendent position should be appointed by the Governor.
- Many respondents' opinions on the Department of Education derive from direct experience with the agency.
- Key issues found in the public survey were focused on teacher pay, funding for schools, and curriculum.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



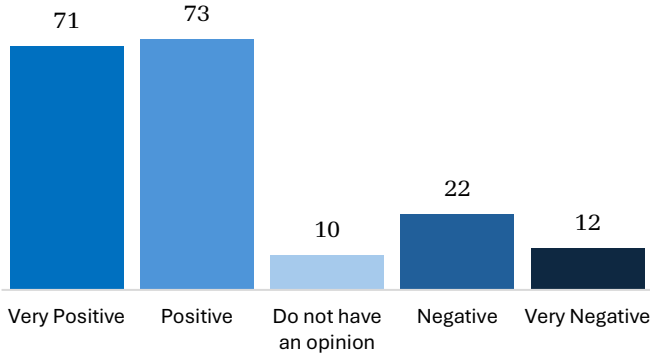




South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

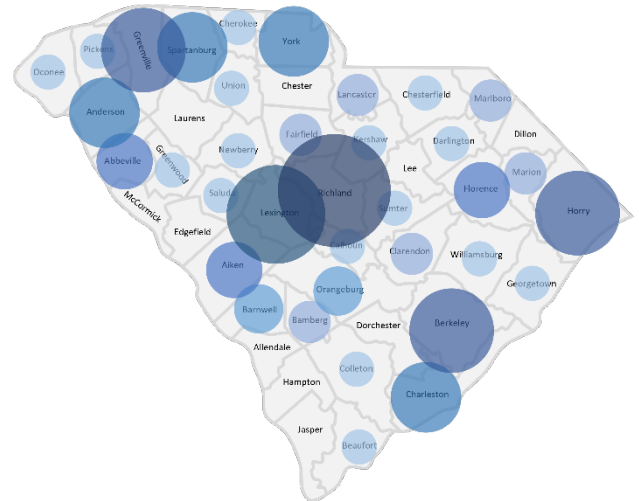
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE  
 90 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

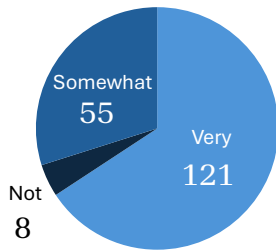


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

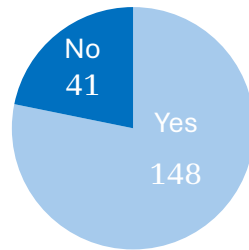
The larger circles indicate more responses.



FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



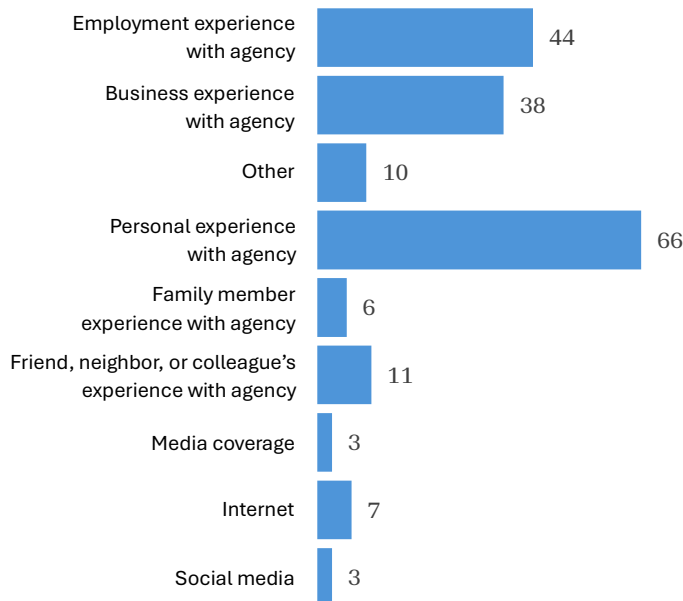
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Respondents find the agency helpful in workforce development, noting that staff are knowledgeable and professional, possessing a work ethic and heart to serve, job training efforts are beneficial, and online resources provide valuable information.
- They appreciate the leadership's commitment to improving employment opportunities and the agency's collaboration with other state agencies and employers in the state, which supports rural and manufacturing job development.
- However, they criticize low salaries for state employees, poor responsiveness at regional offices, a cumbersome claims process, and lack of support for and discrimination against people with disabilities.
- Complaints also include outdated training tools, difficulty reaching staff by phone, insufficient assistance with applications and resumes, and a website that is not user friendly.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



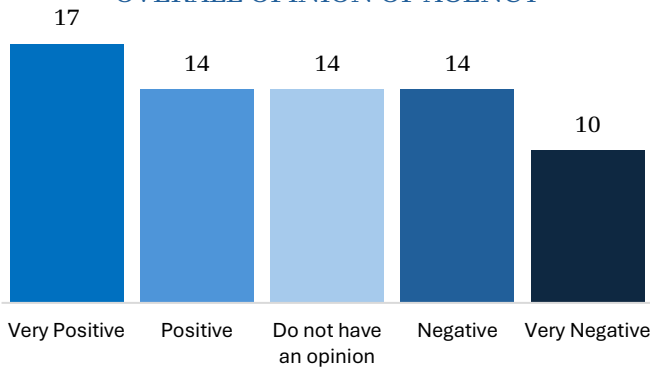
# Department of Insurance



South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

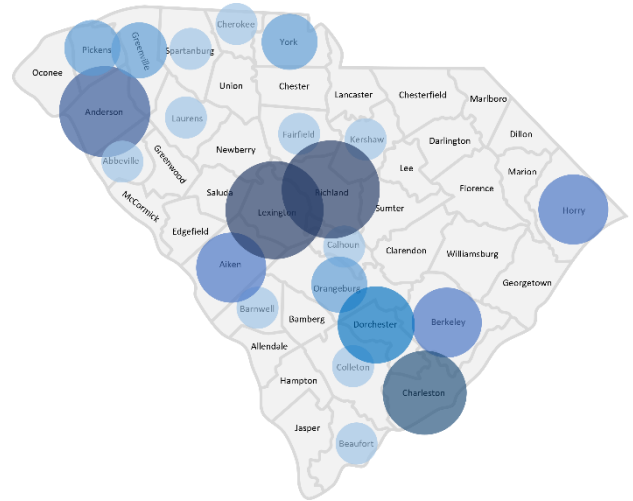
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE - 72 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

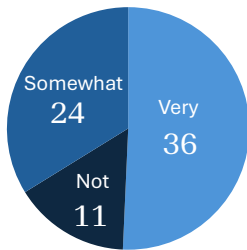


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

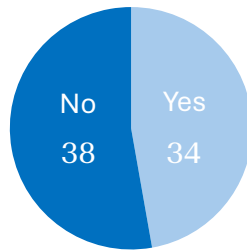
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FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



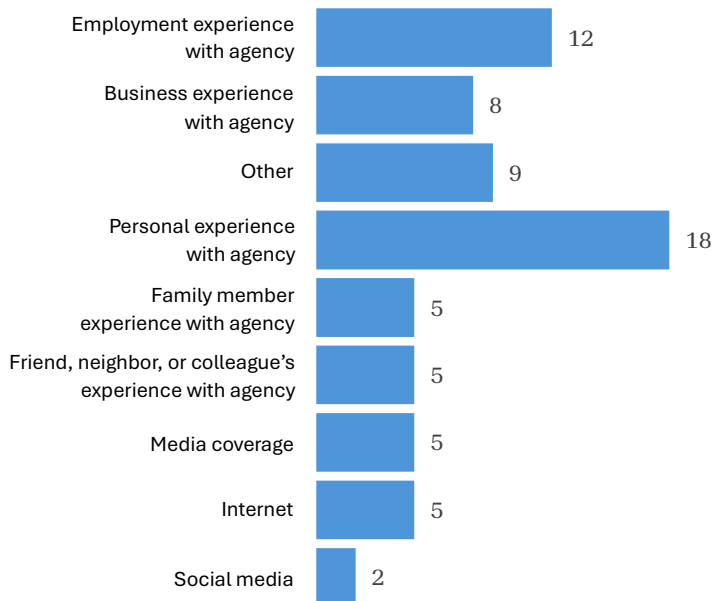
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Survey responses were a mix of mainly citizens who have dealt with agency and those that work for the agency.
- Negative responses derive from frustration with agency leadership, communication, and perceived failures of the agency.
- Many respondents believe there is a lack of oversight with the Department of Insurance in regulating insurance companies.
- Many respondents voice concern over the rising costs of insurance, and the belief that Department of Insurance does not have citizens' best interest.
- Former employee respondents feel as if the lack of communication with agency leadership has led to employees leaving the agency.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



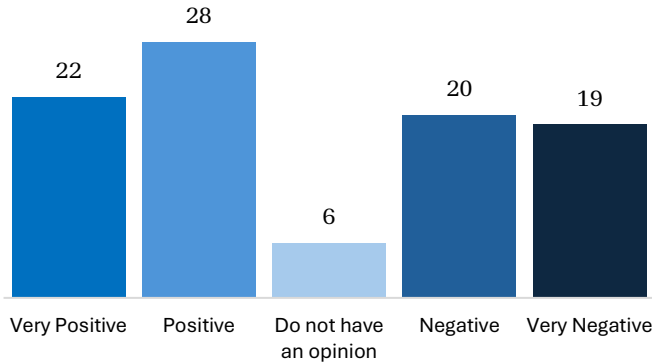
# State Law Enforcement Division



South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

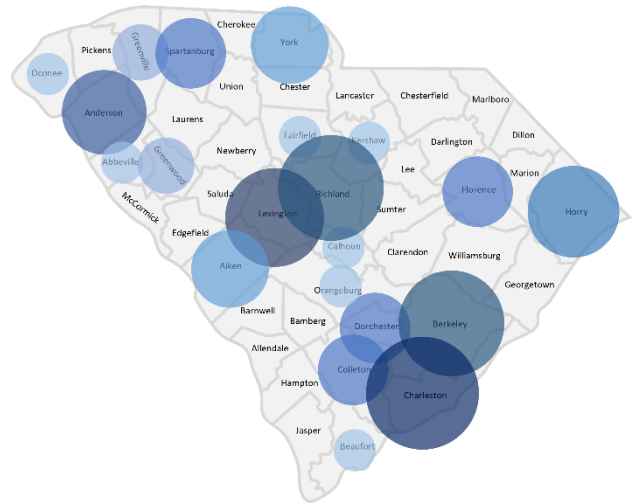
STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (SLED)  
 99 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

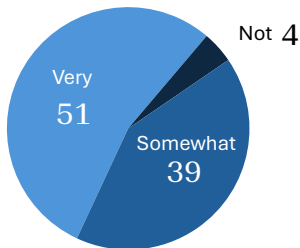


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

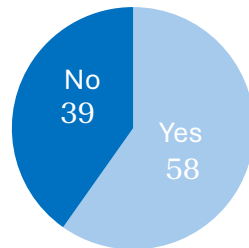
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FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



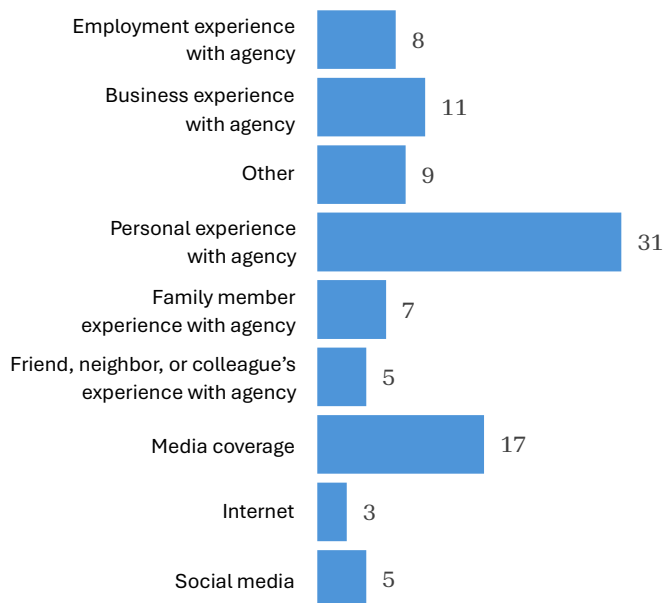
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- The positive feedback highlights that SLED’s provision of background checks is valuable, and some described SLED as a “vital resource” for counties without local investigative services.
- Several respondents described SLED as “a poorly run law enforcement agency that lacks efficiency and effectiveness,” with one saying that the agency has “an inexplicable amount of nepotism and favoritism” in hiring.
- Concerns about delays and backlogs were common, with one noting that SLED “needs more regional crime labs in the future to reduce the backlog of cases as the population increases.”
- Respondents stated that “obtaining information online is very difficult or nonexistent,” with one person stating, “Any forms a person needs are difficult to locate.”
- Respondents also expressed concerns about corruption and accountability.
- A recurring theme was the need for improved training in “diversity and sensitivity” and increased public outreach, particularly in rural areas.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



# Tuition Grants Commission

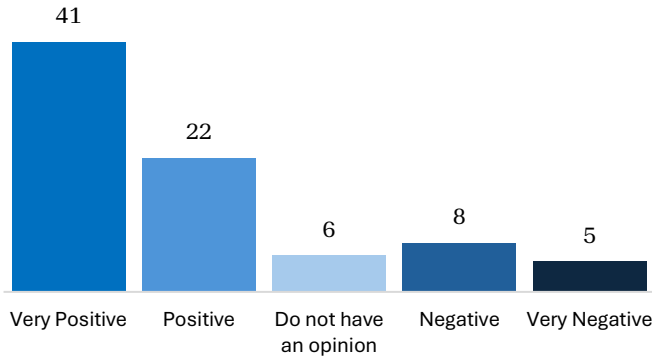




South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

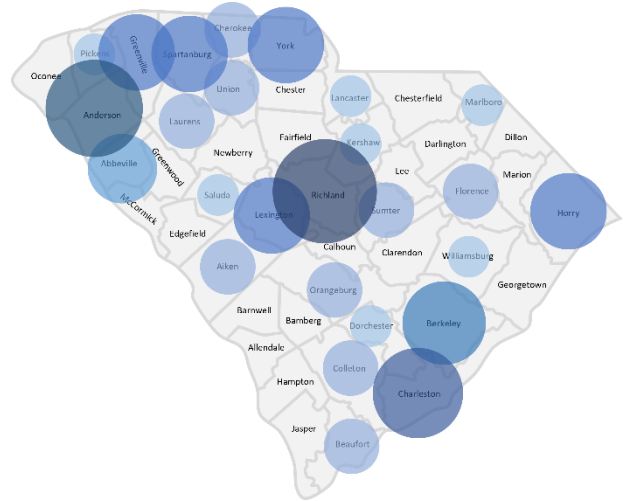
TUITION GRANTS COMMISSION - 85 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

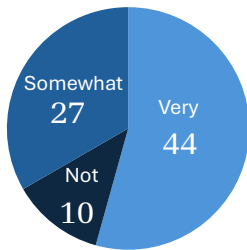


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

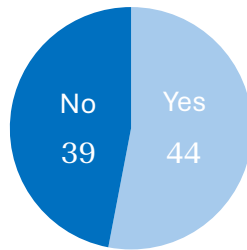
The larger circles indicate more responses.



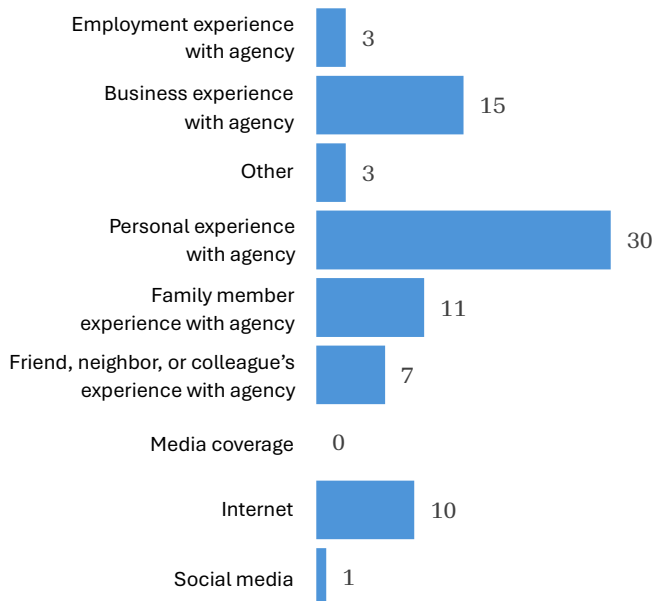
FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Many respondents praise the agency staff for being professional and knowledgeable.
- Some respondents state the need for more funding for the agency and how crucial it is to keep supporting the agency.
- Some respondents believe that the agency could be combined with Commission on Higher Education, due to the current small agency staff.
- Some respondents want more engagement and grant information directed towards the non-traditional student.
- Survey responses mainly revolve around increasing the value of the tuition grant, appreciation of agency staff, and the many ways the grant has helped need-based students.

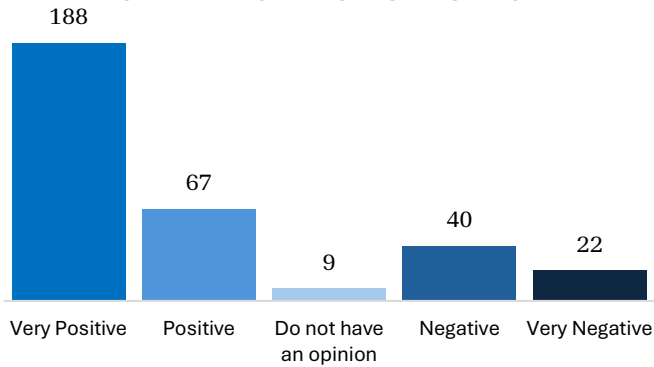
# Vocational Rehabilitation Department



South Carolina House of Representatives  
 Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee  
 2025 Public Input Survey Results

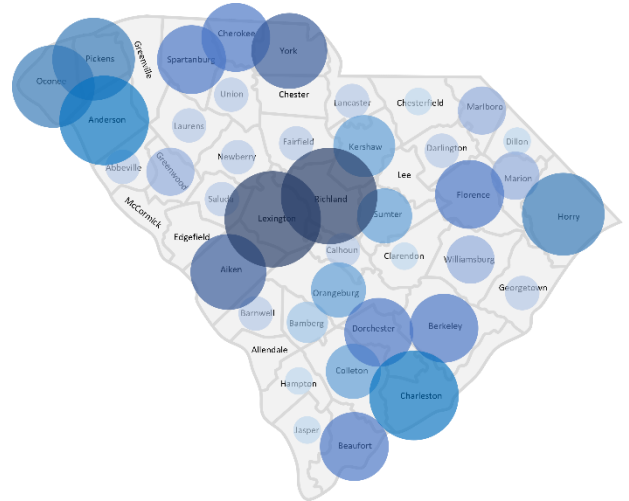
DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION  
 333 RESPONSES

OVERALL OPINION OF AGENCY

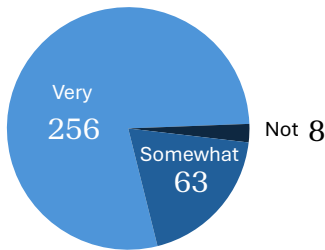


RESPONSES PER COUNTY

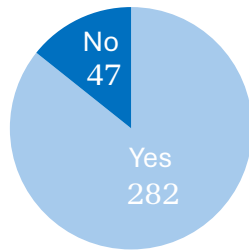
The larger circles indicate more responses.



FAMILIARITY WITH AGENCY SERVICES



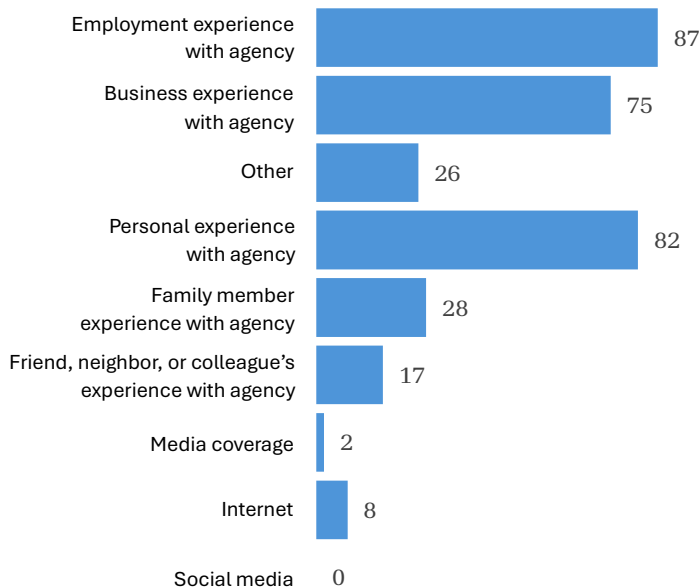
DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENCY?



KEY SENTIMENTS FROM COMMENTS ABOUT THE AGENCY

- Many positive responses were from consumers who have had success with the agency staff and programs.
- Negative responses mainly focus on the lack of help or assessment for intellectually disabled individuals.
- There seems to be confusion among respondents of what the agency provides in contrast of the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs provides.
- Some respondents believe that the agency leadership shows favoritism to certain agency staff, which have led to some employees leaving the agency.
- Responses also revolve around lack of communication about agency services to rural areas of the state.
- Some survey responses detail issues with agency case workers as well as staffing shortages to adequately help consumers.
- Positive responses also highlight the collaboration the agency has with other entities.

MOST INFLUENTIAL ON OPINION OF AGENCY



## Committee Contact Information



SOUTH CAROLINA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &  
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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