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# JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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2025-2026 Session

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## AGENDA

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The House Judiciary Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025, one hour after adjournment of the House, in Room 516** of the Blatt Building, Columbia, South Carolina. *The Judiciary committee staff has attempted to contact the interested parties of all bills listed on the agenda for this meeting.*

### **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, CYBERSECURITY & SPECIAL LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### **Favorable with Amendment**

[H.3045](#) – Rep. T. Moore TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION [16-15-390](#) SO AS TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF OBSCENE VISUAL REPRESENTATIONS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE, DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS, AND ESTABLISH PENALTIES; BY AMENDING SECTION [23-3-430](#), RELATING TO THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY, SO AS TO ADD THE OFFENSE OF OBSCENE VISUAL REPRESENTATIONS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY; AND BY AMENDING SECTION [23-3-462](#), RELATING TO TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO CLARIFY POSSIBLE TERMINATION REQUIREMENTS AND INCLUDE TIER I AND TIER II DESIGNATIONS FOR OUT-OF-STATE OR FEDERAL CONVICTIONS.

#### **Favorable with Amendment**

[H.3387](#) – Rep. G.M. Smith -TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER 37, TITLE 27 SO AS TO ENTITLE THE ARTICLE "EJECTION OF UNLAWFUL OCCUPANTS OF A RESIDENTIAL

DWELLING," TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS, TO PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE REMEDY TO REMOVE PERSONS UNLAWFULLY OCCUPYING A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING; TO REDESIGNATE CHAPTER 37, TITLE 27 AS "EJECTMENT PROCEEDINGS"; TO REDESIGNATE THE EXISTING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 37, TITLE 27 AS ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 37, TITLE 27 AND ENTITLE IT "EJECTMENT OF TENANTS"; AND BY ADDING SECTION [16-11-521](#) SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE OFFENSE OF CRIMINAL MISCHIEF.

**Favorable**

***2.25.25 – Committee adjourned debate on the bill until the next full committee meeting***

[H.3460](#) – Rep. Wooten - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION [1-17-142](#) SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, A CIRCUIT SOLICITOR, OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER RELATED RECORDS BY A PROVIDER OF AN ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICE OR REMOTE COMPUTING SERVICE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

**Favorable with Amendment**

[S.74](#) – Sen. Hembree - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION [17-13-142](#) SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, A CIRCUIT SOLICITOR, OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER RELATED RECORDS BY A PROVIDER OF AN ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICE OR REMOTE COMPUTING SERVICE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

**CONSTITUTIONAL LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Favorable with Amendment**

[H.3497](#) – Rep. W. Newton - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION [38-90-20](#), RELATING TO INSURANCE LICENSURE, SO AS TO ALLOW AN INSURANCE COMPANY TO PROVIDE LIQUOR LIABILITY INSURANCE; BY AMENDING SECTION [61-2-60](#), RELATING TO THE PROMULGATION OF ALCOHOL REGULATIONS, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE REGULATIONS REGARDING ALCOHOL SERVER TRAINING POSITIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION [61-2-145](#), RELATING TO REQUIRED LIQUOR LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE, SO AS TO ESTABLISH A LIQUOR LIABILITY MITIGATION PROGRAM; BY ADDING CHAPTER 3 TO TITLE 61 SO AS TO ESTABLISH AN ALCOHOL SERVER TRAINING PROGRAM; AND BY AMENDING SECTION [61-6-2220](#), RELATING TO ALCOHOL SALES, SO AS TO PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM KNOWINGLY SELLING ALCOHOL TO AN INTOXICATED PERSON.

**Favorable**

[H.3556](#) – Rep. B. Newton - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION [7-17-560](#), RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A POLITICAL PARTY TO HEAR CERTAIN PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ALSO HEAR PROTESTS AND CONTESTS IN THE CASE OF COUNTY OFFICERS, LESS THAN COUNTY OFFICERS, AND MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE THE FILING OF ANY PROTEST OR CONTEST TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A BOND WITH SURETY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR APPEALS FROM DECISIONS BY THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; BY AMENDING SECTION [7-17-570](#), RELATING TO HEARINGS OF PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO EXTEND THE TIME IN WHICH THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MUST CONDUCT SUCH HEARINGS; BY AMENDING SECTION [5-15-80](#), RELATING TO MUNICIPAL PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT SUCH PROTESTS AND CONTESTS ARE TO BE FILED, HEARD, AND DECIDED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN SECTIONS [7-17-560](#) AND [7-17-570](#); AND BY REPEALING SECTIONS [7-17-520](#), [7-17-530](#), [7-17-540](#), [7-17-550](#), [7-17-580](#), AND [7-17-590](#) ALL RELATING TO PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS FOR CERTAIN OFFICES.

**Favorable with Amendment**

[H.3557](#) – Rep. B. Newton - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION [7-11-15](#), RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN AS A CANDIDATE IN GENERAL ELECTIONS, SO AS TO SHORTEN THE CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD, TO REQUIRE ALL CANDIDATES FROM EACH POLITICAL PARTY IN THIS STATE TO PAY A FILING FEE, AND TO AUTHORIZE POLITICAL PARTIES TO CHARGE A CERTIFICATION FEE TO ALL CANDIDATES; AND BY AMENDING SECTION [7-11-210](#), RELATING TO THE FILING OF PARTY PLEDGES BY CANDIDATES, SO AS TO CHANGE THE DATE BY WHICH A PARTY PLEDGE MUST BE FILED.

**Favorable with Amendment**

[H.3305](#) – Rep. W. Newton - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 7 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 15 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE "SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC EXPRESSION PROTECTION ACT," REGARDING A CAUSE OF ACTION ASSERTED IN A CIVIL ACTION BASED UPON A PERSON'S COMMUNICATION IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE PROCEEDINGS.

**GENERAL LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Favorable with Amendment**

***2.18.25 -Subcommittee Report was adopted and debate adjourned on the bill until next full committee meeting***

***2.25.25 – Committee adjourned debate on the bill until the next full committee meeting***

[H.3276](#) – Rep. Pope - TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "SOUTH CAROLINA HANDS-FREE AND DISTRACTED DRIVING ACT"; BY AMENDING SECTION [56-5-3890](#), RELATING TO UNLAWFUL USE OF A WIRELESS ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH IT IS UNLAWFUL TO USE A WIRELESS MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICE, TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF DISTRACTED DRIVING AND PROVIDE PENALTIES, AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL REVISIONS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION [56-1-720](#), RELATING TO POINTS THAT MAY BE ASSESSED AGAINST A PERSON'S DRIVING RECORD FOR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVING VIOLATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE OF DISTRACTED DRIVING IS A TWO-POINT VIOLATION.