

## Session 126 - (2025-2026)

### H 3502 General Bill, By Bannister, Rutherford, Caskey, Erickson, Weeks, Davis, C. Mitchell, Spann-Wilder, Pedalino, Hixon and King

**Summary:** Department of Social Services

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTIONS 63-7-10 AND 63-7-1620, RELATING TO PRINCIPLES OF THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PROCEEDINGS, RESPECTIVELY, SO AS TO CLARIFY THAT LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT MUST ENSURE THAT CHILD WELFARE AND SAFETY ARE THE PREDOMINANT BASIS OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS AND THAT LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT HAVE THE SOLE DISCRETION OVER DECISIONS PERTAINING TO CHILD WELFARE PROCEEDINGS.

12/05/24	House	Prefiled
12/05/24	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary
01/14/25	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 226)
01/14/25	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 226)
02/06/25	House	Committee report: Favorable Judiciary (House Journal-page 6)
02/12/25	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hixon, King
02/12/25	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 40)
02/12/25	House	Roll call Yeas-107 Nays-1 (House Journal-page 40)
02/13/25	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 13)
02/13/25	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 12)
02/13/25	Senate	Referred to Committee on Family and Veterans' Services (Senate Journal-page 12)