##  **Legislative Update No. 19**

## **House Floor Actions**

**(May 24, 2023)**

The Senate has concurred in the House amendments to **S. 474** the **"Fetal Heartbeat and Protection from Abortion Act."** It will now be enrolled for ratification.

**H. 4299** a **continuing resolution** for funding state government operations was ratified May 24, 2023. Should the upcoming 2023-2024 state fiscal year begin with no annual general appropriations act in effect, this joint resolution provides authority for continuing to pay the recurring expenses of state government at the current funding levels approved in Act 239 of 2022, the appropriation act for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

The Senate has passed **H. 3553,** a bill to remove **Adoption Waiting Periods**. This bill eliminates the existing statutory 90-day waiting period after adoption petitions have been filed before adoptions may be finalized with an adoption decree. It is being enrolled for ratification.

The Senate has amended and returned to the House, **H. 3503**, a bill to establish and enhance criminal penalties for **trafficking or distributing** **fentanyl**, or fentanyl-related substances, which would be considered Schedule I drugs. Anyone possessing over 4 grams of fentanyl would trigger these new criminal enforcement penalties.

As amended by the Senate, anyone violating this law while in possession of **firearms or ammunition** would face additional penalties for doing so.

The Senate informed the House that it has overridden the **veto** by the Governor on [**S. 31**](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=31&session=125&summary=B) (Municipal Financial Records).

**H. 3340, R. 79,** legislation to add anyone with an **autism spectrum disorder or other developmental disability diagnosis** to the list of people eligible for inclusion in the State Law Enforcement Division’s **Endangered Person Notification System** was signed by the Governor on May 19, 2023.

NOTE: These summaries are prepared by the South Carolina House of Representatives staff and are not the expression of the legislation's sponsor(s) or the House of Representatives. They are strictly for the use and benefit of members of the House of Representatives and are not to be construed by a court of law as an expression of legislative intent.