



South Carolina House of Representatives

Legislative Update

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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(for May 7 - 9, 2024)

H. 3424 No Obscene Material Website Access for Minors

The House and Senate have passed **H. 3424** and enrolled it for ratification so it can then go to the Governor for signature. This new law will be added to the state Consumer Protection Code. Any commercial entity with a site containing a significant percentage of obscene material, or material that depicts, describes, or promotes child pornography or child sexual exploitation on the internet, could be held civilly liable if they fail to perform reasonable age verification methods-- including digitalized identification cards, independent third-party age verification services, or any other commercially reasonable method using public or private transactional data-- for those attempting to access their material. This commercial entity or third-party using age verification methods cannot retain any individually identifiable information after access to the website has been granted. Failure to properly verify users' ages would allow any harmed individuals to seek nominal, actual, and punitive damages; file class action lawsuits; and recover their costs and attorney fees. In addition, the Attorney General can seek an injunction against commercial entities that fail to comply with reasonable age verification requirements.

H. 4042 Antisemitism as a Listed Discriminatory Act

In further action this week, the House and Senate also passed, ratified [**R. 153**], and the Governor has signed **H. 4042**. It will **codify antisemitism as a listed discriminatory act**. It will do so by incorporating the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition, and examples, of *antisemitism* into the South Carolina Code of Laws. After that process is finalized, incidents of this type of discrimination will be included in efforts to protect South Carolinians' civil rights. It will also be used for reviewing policies, laws, and regulations prohibiting discriminatory acts.

However, anyone criticizing the country of Israel in the same manner as they criticize other countries, or otherwise exercising their constitutionally-guaranteed First Amendment rights, will not run afoul of this legislation.

H. 5042 Robert Smalls Monument

The House concurred with Senate amendments to **H. 5042** and enrolled the bill for ratification, a bill that establishes the **Robert Smalls Monument**. Robert Smalls was an escaped slave (also a ship's pilot) who became a Civil War hero, a legislator in the South Carolina General Assembly and a United States Congressman. As a result, this bill creates the Robert Smalls Monument Commission to determine the design of the monument to Robert Smalls and its location on the State House grounds. This eleven-member

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commission is directed to raise private funds and receive grants to carry out its purpose. The commission must report the proposed design and location of the monument to the State House Committee for its approval by January 15, 2025. The commission is dissolved on January 15, 2028; however, if the Robert Smalls Monument has not been dedicated by January 15, 2028, the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the commission must be transferred to the State House Committee. The Senate amendments included administration changes in the duties of the commission and changed that the commission shall consult with the South Carolina Department of Archives and History to determine and confirm the historical accuracy of the monument's engravings.

H. 4820 Statewide Turkey Hunting Season

The House amended Senate amendments and returned to Senate where the Senate insisted on its amendments to **H. 4820**, a bill creating a **statewide turkey hunting season**. The House version of the bill outlines the season for hunting and taking of male wild turkey is April 10 through May 10. The bill also reduces the season bag limit from three to two for statewide residents. This provision takes effect January 2025 and expires January 2030; after which, the provision is amended back to the prior language of January 2025. The Senate amendments include season for hunting and taking of legal male wild turkey is April 1 through May 1. The Senate amendment also includes that it is unlawful for a person to hunt, kill, or possess a male wild turkey with a beard less than six inches long and a tail fan that is not fully developed. In addition, it is unlawful for a person to hunt or stalk a wild turkey while holding or using for hunter concealment a tail fan, a partial or full decoy with a tail fan, or a tail fan mounted to a firearm. The House then adopted a floor amendment which repeals the sunset clause for Section 5, of Act 91 of 2021 **which takes the sunset clause off of the catch and size limit of flounder and takes it back to permanent law (S. 903)**. (*Conference committee: Reps. Hixon, Forrest and Bauer; Sens. Campsen, McElveen and Goldfinch*).

H. 4002 "Captain Robert Johnson Act" (Prohibiting Telecommunication Devices For Inmates)

Also passing the House and Senate, **H. 4002**, ratified as **R. 152**, and signed by the Governor is the Captain Robert Johnson Act, **prohibiting telecommunication devices for inmates**. Absent preapproval by the Department of Corrections Director, under this proposal, no inmate could possess any telecommunications device, including but not limited to portable two-way pagers, handheld radios, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, or laptop computers, while incarcerated. If these contraband device bans are violated, violators face penalties ranging from one to five years in jail depending on the number of the offense committed. If they are found to have been used in the commission of a subsequent felony, violators would face up to an additional ten years in jail.

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H. 3220 “Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act”

The House has concurred in Senate amendments to the **“Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act,” H. 3220**, which is being enrolled for ratification. This legislation was developed by the national Uniform Law Commission. It sets out comprehensive criteria for determining a credible threat to a child’s safety or likelihood of abduction in either child custody or visitation situations. It also sets out countermeasures to these attempts in great detail. These criteria will be available to judges and parties in these cases to evaluate the seriousness of children’s situations and take proactive steps to prevent these incidents from occurring. As amended by the Senate, both SLED and the FBI can retain fingerprints for solving the identity of latent fingerprints in unsolved crimes.

S. 455 Bloodborne Diseases

The House gave third reading and enrolled for ratification **S. 455**, a bill adding Hepatitis C to the list of **bloodborne diseases**. In addition, the provision includes dentist in the definition of health care professionals.

S. 558 Tuberculosis Testing for Applicants in Nursing Homes

The House gave third reading and enrolled for ratification **S. 558**, a bill that outlines **procedures for tuberculosis testing of applicants or newly admitted residents for nursing homes or community residential care facilities**.

H. 4957 Name, Image, or Likeness (NIL)

The House concurred with Senate amendments and enrolled the bill for ratification. H. 4957 revises definitions and regulations regarding compensation for intercollegiate athletes' use of their name, image, or likeness (NIL). The bill would allow college sports programs and certain agents to support NIL activities. It protects post-secondary institutions and their employees from liability for actions (e.g., decisions in the athletic arena) affecting athletes' NIL earnings. The bill safeguards in-state schools from punitive actions for engaging in NIL activities that violate association rules (e.g., the NCAA), prohibits institutions from receiving fees from NIL deals, and exempts NIL agreements from public records requests (FOIA) unless the institution is a contracting party. Additionally, it mandates athlete agents to adhere to the Uniform Athlete Agents Act of 2018 and related legislation and removes the 10 percent cap on agency contract fees.

The Senate’s amendments that the House concurred in added that nothing should be construed to bar any common law claims by intercollegiate athletes of fraud, fraudulent misrepresentation, or intentional misrepresentation. Also, a section was added to state that an athlete may not earn compensation for the use of his name, image, or likeness for the endorsement of tobacco, alcohol, illegal substances or activities, banned athletic

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substances, or gambling including, but not limited to, sports betting. And their amendment removed the ability for family members to act as agents; holds that an agent cannot receive more than 20 percent of the amounts involved; and asserted that an institution may prohibit an athlete from using name for compensation if it conflicts with institutional values.

S. 1188 Expulsion and Hearings

S. 1188 was enrolled for ratification. The bill relates to expulsion and hearings and would amend requirements to be included in written notification to parents or legal guardians of the pupil. The bill states: The written notification to the parents or legal guardian of the pupil must include their right to have legal counsel present at the hearing, the right to question all witnesses, and contact information for a legal aid service provider which may determine eligibility for free legal representation. The notification must also include the right to access the investigative file in its entirety, to inspect all documents and videos at least three days prior to the hearing, with appropriate exemptions and redactions as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC Section 1232g.

H. 4624 Gender Reassignment Procedures

The House concurred with Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **H. 4624**. The bill prohibits a health care professional from engaging in **gender transition procedures to a person under the age of 18 years old**. The bill exempts mental health providers offering mental health services. The bill outlines that "gender transition procedures" means puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones, or genital or nongenital gender reassignment surgery, provided or performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a physical gender transition. The bill includes that with any initiated treatment provided before August 1, 2024, a health care professional may establish, if necessary, a period during which the treatment is systematically reduced (diminished) by January 31, 2025. However, a health care professional may provide certain appropriate medical services to a person who is under 18 years of age who was born with a medically verifiable disorder of sexual development.

The bill prohibits the use of public funds for gender transition procedures. The bill prohibits the South Carolina Medicaid Program from reimbursing or providing coverage for practices prohibited under these provisions. In addition, public school officials shall not knowingly encourage a minor to withhold or that the official withhold information from the minor's parent or legal guardian related to the minor's perception that his or her gender is inconsistent with his or her sex. The Senate amendments states that the principal, vice principal, or counselor at a public school shall immediately notify in

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writing a minor's parent or legal guardian if the minor (1) asserts to any school employee that the minor's gender is inconsistent with his or her sex or (2) requests a school employee to address a minor using a pronoun or title that does not align with the minor's sex.

Furthermore, a physician who knowingly performs genital gender reassignment surgery is guilty of inflicting great bodily injury upon a child. The bill provides penalties for violation. The Act takes effect upon the approval of the Governor.

H. 3988 Pharmacist and Pharmacist Technicians

The House non-concurred with Senate amendments and the Senate insisted upon its amendments to **H. 3988**, a bill that **deals with the responsibilities of pharmacist and pharmacist technicians** by making permanent some of the 2020 pharmacy provisions allowed during the pandemic under the “**Pharmacy Practice Act.**” The bill allows for flu and COVID-19 testing in the pharmacy. A pharmacist can order test and must be the one to interpret the results but can delegate the swabbing to trained pharmacy technicians or interns. The bill authorizes pharmacy technicians who have the required certifications and training to administer vaccinations under the direct supervision of a pharmacist and amends the certification and training requirements for pharmacy interns to administer vaccines. The bill outlines that individuals aged 16 and older can receive any age appropriate approved immunizations in the pharmacy. Those individuals less than 16 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or a caretaker with written parental consent. If the person receiving a vaccine is under the age of eighteen years, a pharmacist must inform the patient and their caregiver of the importance of mental health and routine well care visits with a pediatrician. In addition, the bill increases the Board of Pharmacy by adding an at-large member who is a state-certified pharmacy technician. The Senate amendments added language dealing with vaccines that would require compliance under a non-existing statute. (*Conference committee: Davis, MM Smith, and W Jones; Sens. Martin, Hutto and Cromer*).

S. 241 Genetic Counselors

The House approved the committee’s amendment, gave third reading and returned to the Senate **S. 241**, a bill that provides for the regulation of **genetic counselors** under the administration of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR). Among many things, the bill creates the South Carolina Board of Genetic Counselors to license genetic counselors. The purpose of this board is to protect the public through the regulation of professionals who educate and communicate with the public regarding the human problems associated with the occurrence, or the risk of occurrence, of a genetic disorder in a family, including the provision of services to help an individual or family. The board is comprised of five members appointed by the Governor of which must be a

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lay member from the state and four practicing genetic counselors. The board may issue a limited license to an applicant who meets certain requirements. The bill also outlines that under certain conditions, the limited license shall expire automatically. The practice of genetic counseling is, but not limited to, obtaining and evaluating individual, family and medical histories to determine genetic risk for genetic/medical conditions and diseases in a patient, his offsprings and other family members. Nothing in this chapter may be construed to authorize a licensed genetic counselor to practice medicine, surgery, osteopathy, homeopathy, chiropractic, naturopathy, magnetic healing, or another form, branch, or method of healing as authorized by state laws. (Senate concurred with House amendments and enrolled for ratification.)

H. 4617 Xylazine

The House concurred with Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **H. 4617**, a bill that would add **Xylazine**, a legal tranquilizing drug used on large animals by veterinarians, on the list of Scheduled II Drugs. Xylazine is being mixed with other illegal "street" drugs placing users at a higher risk of fatal drug poisoning. As a result, adding Xylazine to the Scheduled II list allows for law enforcement to respond accordingly. The bill outlines that it is unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally produce, manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to produce, manufacture, or distribute xylazine for a use other than a nonhuman use. The provision does not apply to the production, manufacturing, distribution or possession of it when used in legitimate veterinary practice. The bill also outlines that a person who violates the provision is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than 10 years or fined not more than \$15,000, or both. The Senate amendments were technical changes.

H. 4867 Telecommunicator CPR Training (T-CPR)

The House concurred with Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **H. 4867**, a bill that requires all 911 telecommunicators that provide dispatch for emergency medical conditions to be required annually to be trained, utilizing the most current nationally recognized high-quality **telecommunicator cardiopulmonary** resuscitation (T-CPR). This provision begins January 1, 2025. "T-CPR" means telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which is the dispatcher-assisted delivery of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instruction by trained emergency call takers or public safety dispatchers to callers or bystanders for events requiring CPR, such as out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA)." The Senate amendments included immunity language as it relates to this provision.

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H. 3934 Fort Eisenhower to the Definition of Federal Military Installations

The House concurred with Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **H. 3934**, a bill **adding Fort Eisenhower (name change for Fort Gordon) to the definition of Federal Military Installations**. The bill also updates name changes for certain bases currently on the list. The Senate amendments included the updated name change for Fort Gordon.

S. 858 Acute Hospital Care At Home Programs/Service Exempted From CON Review

The House approved the committee's amendment, gave third reading and returned to the Senate **S. 858**, a bill **exempting acute hospital care at home programs and services delivered by a licensed acute care hospital from the certificate of need review**. A home health agency shall obtain a certificate of need before licensure and procedures for applying for a certificate must be in accordance with the "State Certification of Need and Health Facility Licensure Act". No certificate is required for home health agencies providing home health services before July 1, 1980. The bill also adds that patients enrolled in the hospital care at home program shall not be considered within the licensed bed capacity of the hospital participating in the program. (*Senate concurred with House amendments and enrolled for ratification.*)

S. 1005 Watercraft Motor Restrictions

The House concurred in Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **S. 1005**, a bill dealing with motor restrictions on Lake Bowen. No boat, watercraft, or any other type of vessel powered by an outdrive or inboard motor having an engine automotive horsepower rating in excess of 200 horsepower is permitted. Personal watercraft may not exceed 190 horsepower. Also, the bill notes that it is unlawful to operate a personal watercraft, specialty prop-craft, or vessel in excess of idle speed within one hundred feet of a wharf, dock, bulkhead, or pier or within 50 feet of a moored or anchored vessel or person on Lake Bowen. The House amended the bill by including language requiring DNR to provide for **regulations on possession of all South Carolina native captive wildlife (H. 4874)**. The Senate amendments removed the House's amendment that included the language from **H. 4874**.

H. 4386 Robust Redhorse

The House non-concurred with Senate amendments and the Senate insisted upon its amendments to **H. 4386**, a bill that makes it **unlawful to take, harm, or kill robust redhorse** (*Moxostoma robustum*) from public waters. The robust redhorse is a large, long-lived member of the redhorse sucker family. It is an important part of the native aquatic ecosystem and is being considered for the national endangered species list. The Senate amendments added that a person who violates the provisions of this section is

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guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred dollars for a first offense and not more than one thousand dollars for each subsequent offense. The Senate also added the Blue Crab legislation (**S. 955**). (*Conference committee: Hixon, Forrest, and McDaniel*)

S. 1051 Extending Duck Hunting Season/Taking of Male Wild Turkey

The House amended, gave third reading and sent to the Senate **S. 1051**, a bill **extending the duck hunting season for five years ending 2028-2029 on Lake Blalock**. In addition, the bill was amended to include the creation of a statewide turkey hunting season which outlines that the **season for hunting and taking of male wild turkey is April 10 through May 10**. The bill also reduces the season bag limit from three to two for statewide residents. This provision takes effect January 2025 and expires January 2030. After which the provision is amended back to the prior language of January 2025. The bill also was amended to include language dealing with **recreational license for the use of set hooks in the Congaree River and the Upper Reach of the Santee River for residents sixty-five years of age or older**. These provisions expire on January 1, 2030. (*Senate concurred with House amendments and enrolled for ratification.*)

H. 4611 Electronic Dog Control Device

The House concurred in Senate amendments and enrolled for ratification **H. 4611**, a bill that makes it illegal to remove an **electronic dog control device** placed on a dog by its owner. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and the bill provides for penalties. The Senate amendments deleted Section 50-11-785(C) dealing with the removal of the electronic collar or other electronic tracking device for the reasonable administration of medical assistance given to the dog.

S. 1166 Dismissing Qualifying Pending Illegal Firearm Possession Charges

The Senate has concurred in House amendments to **S. 1166**., so it is being enrolled for ratification. Under this legislation, all **charges** pending against a person **for unlawful possession of a handgun**, that were **nullified** by the enactment of the **S.C. Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act** of 2024, **would have to be dismissed**. This legislation cannot be used to dismiss other crimes related to these handgun charges that arose out of the same incident. As amended, no prosecutor or law enforcement officer could be held civilly liable for making these original charges that were dismissed under this proposal.

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H. 4248 Conditional Discharge Orders for Serving Underage Drinkers Alcohol Offenders

The Senate has concurred in House amendments to H. 4248, which is being enrolled for ratification. It permits servers charged with delivering underage patrons, beer, ale, porter, or wine to participate in conditional discharge orders, after paying appropriate fees set out under this bill. Compliance with these orders would dispose of pending criminal charges. While the State Law Enforcement Division [SLED] would receive a non-public record of these offenses, these could be expunged once violators successfully meet all of these orders' conditions, pay an appropriate fee, and, as a result no convictions would appear on their records as a result.

H. 3518 Ignition Interlock Devices For Temporary License Issuances

The House and Senate have passed, ratified [R. 145], and the Governor has signed H. 3518. This legislation revises the **driver's license reinstatement fee program to include ignition interlock devices being installed** on motorists' vehicles as part of obtaining a temporary license after charges, including driving under the influence, have been made.

H. 3682 Recouping Costs Incurred In Prosecuting Animal Abuse Cases

The House has concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 3682**, legislation to better facilitate **Levying on Seized Animals for Care Costs** in animal abuse criminal cases. It is being enrolled for ratification. Before defendants could be held responsible for paying costs incurred while their charges were pending, required hearing procedures with prior notice would have to be met. A surety or bond for animal care could be required. The entity housing these seized animals will receive reimbursement for the care they provided while these charges were pending. Animal owners found innocent of any animal abuse charges made against them would receive full reimbursement for all related care costs they fronted during the pendency of these charges.

S. 1001 Paying Inmates Federal Minimum Wages

The House and Senate have passed and enrolled for ratification, **S. 1001**, legislation to **require** that **inmates** participating in programs established by the Director of the Department of Corrections, to work in the private sector, **be paid the federal minimum wage** for their work.

H. 3776 Judges' Permissions to Temporarily Leave South Carolina

The House and Senate have passed H. 3776, legislation to repeal an old, outdated requirement for state judges to obtain written permission from the South Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice before leaving South Carolina. It is being enrolled for ratification.

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S. 845 “2022 Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins [Pact] Act” Probate Court Appointments

Also passing the House and Senate this week, then ratified [R.130], was **S. 845**. It extends **the appointment deadline in Probate Court cases related to claims under the 2022 Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins [PACT] Act**. It does so regardless of the date any military veteran or service member died. The PACT Act provides benefits for individuals exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, radiation, and other toxins –including sand and dust, particulates, oil well or sulfur fires, chemicals, warfare agents, depleted uranium, herbicides, and other occupational hazards-- during their military service. This change will ensure veterans and families can file claims under the PACT Act even if the affected veteran passed away over 10 years ago.

S. 1126 Only Citizens as Qualified Voters Referendum The House and Senate have passed and ratified [R. 136] **S. 1126**. This Joint Resolution calls for holding a **ballot referendum on the question of amending Sec. 4, of art. II, of the South Carolina Constitution** to read that **only a –instead of ‘every’--qualified citizen can vote** in elections in South Carolina .

H. 4642 Applying Updated Military Codes and Codes Of Military Justice Revisions to State Military Entities

The House and Senate have passed, ratified [R. 160], and the Governor has signed **H. 4642**. This comprehensive proposal **adds Air, Army, and State National Guards as well as any state militias to various sections of the South Carolina Code military provisions and the Uniform Code of Military Justice**. In addition to adding these soldiers, punishments meted out will no longer include military pay forfeitures, but allow imprisonment of up to five years. It limits a colonel or general officer from assigning their nonjudicial punishment case authority, typically involving diversion cases, to another officer more than two grades lower in rank.

H. 4234 Incapacitated Individuals Probate Court Protections

The House also concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 4234**, legislation to **revise existing probate laws and procedures covering incapacitated people**. It is being enrolled for ratification. When more than \$15,000 per year will be handled on behalf of incapacitated people, then protective proceedings must be convened on behalf of these individuals. In these proceedings, examiner affidavits can be filed by a nurse practitioner, or, in the discretion of the Probate Court, by a physician assistant, nurse, or psychologist, who could do so in addition to licensed physicians as allowed under current law. Also, the incapacitated persons’ Guardians *ad Litem* are required to file their reports 72 hours (increased from 48 hours under current law) prior to any hearing.

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S. 112 Expunging Aged-Out Fraudulent Check Convictions, Mistaken Arrests, and Charges

The House and Senate have passed, and are enrolling for ratification, **S. 112**. Under this bill, **checkwriters convicted of** misdemeanor-level criminal offenses, involving **multiple checks bouncing** within a three-year period, over ten years prior, **could seek to expunge their convictions** after paying full restitution. It cannot be used to expunge any felony crimes. As amended by the House, anyone arrested as a result of mistaken identity would have to have their charges expunged within 180 days after this mistake is discovered. In addition, anyone not convicted of legitimate charges made against them could have these arrest records expunged after five years' time.

H. 3748 Willfully And Criminally Altering Geodetic or Other Surveying Monuments

The House has concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 3748**, and it is being enrolled for ratification. It represents **increased criminal penalties for altering, damaging, moving, or removing geodetic, property corner monuments, control monuments, and any other land surveying monuments and markers**. Someone who inadvertently moves such a monument who then notifies the affected owner of this occurrence will not be subject to prosecution.

H. 4563 Pre-1973 Special Purpose District Property Acquisition And Sales Authority

The House has concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 4563**, legislation that clarifies the **authority of all special purpose districts** created before 1973 to own, acquire, purchase, hold, use, lease, convey, sell, transfer, or dispose of real, personal, or mixed property. It is being enrolled for ratification.

H. 3608 Ending Mandatory County Auditor Deed Endorsements

The House and Senate also approved, ratified [**R.148**], and the Governor has signed **H. 3608**. It **discontinues mandatory county auditor preapproval of all deeds**. This bill allows county auditors to opt-out of long-standing procedures for endorsing deeds recorded in a register of deeds or a registrar of mesne conveyances office.

H. 3313 Florence County

Florence County will be added to the list of counties with a Register of Deeds after the House and Senate have passed H. 3313. It is being enrolled for ratification. This list specifies the South Carolina counties who have a Register of Deeds to handle all real estate-related matters. In the past, county Clerks of Courts handled these documents.

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE-REVIEWED HOUSE BILLS IN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

S. 1046 Modernizing the Judicial Selection Process

The House has nonconcurrented in Senate amendments to **S. 1046**, a bill to enact several **South Carolina Judicial Merit Selection Commission Reforms**. Conferees to a Conference Committee will attempt to iron out differences between the two versions of this bill. Among other things, it proposes a revised South Carolina Judicial Merit Selection Commission to be composed of thirteen members. The Speaker of the House of Representatives would appoint four members, consisting of three House members and a lawyer with at least ten years' experience practicing law. The President of the Senate would appoint two members with one Senator as a member and the other a lawyer with at least ten years' experience practicing law. The Senate Judiciary Committee chair will appoint two additional members. The Governor would appoint five members with one member being a retired judge, and the remaining four being lawyers who have practiced for at least ten years. These appointees could not serve more than two consecutive terms. Appointees could not seek judicial election for one year after completing their commission service. A Bar and Citizens' Judicial Qualifications Committee would replace the existing, separate SC Bar and Citizens review entities.

No one could seek any pledges until one week before an election is to be held. Reports on all qualified candidates are to be filed on the first legislative day. A joint session for judicial elections would be held within four to eight weeks of this report being filed.

If a judicial candidate is a family member of someone serving on the commission, that member would be required to resign. A family member would include a spouse, parent, brother, sister, child, step-child, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild.

All qualified candidate names would be submitted to the General Assembly for a first ballot. After the first ballot, the candidate receiving the fewest votes in a multi-candidate race would be eliminated on the second ballot of candidates. This process of elimination would continue until only one successful candidate remains.

Also as amended, a Magistrate Review Subcommittee would be created and follow the duties outlined in this version of this legislation. They would forward the names of qualified candidates to the Governor and Senate. The Governor would appoint magistrates upon advice and consent by the Senate.

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Magistrate courts civil jurisdiction would be raised to \$25,000. No magistrates could preside in holdover status for more than fourteen days after their appointments have expired. As amended, this legislation would become effective on July 1, 2025 should it receive the Governor's signature.

S. 142 Sex Trafficking to Include Sexual Exploitation of Minors

The House and Senate have named conferees to a Conference Committee on **S. 142**, a bill to **expand the existing definition of sex trafficking to include sexual exploitation of minors** as well as promoting --or participating in-- prostitution of a minor. Sex trafficking victims would be given the right to raise duress and coercion as affirmative defenses to nonviolent offenses committed as a direct result of, or incident to, their being so trafficked. Also, child sex trafficking victims cannot be convicted of nonviolent offenses committed as a direct result, or incident to, their being so trafficked. These minors also would not be subjected to delinquency enforcement actions, if they can show their conduct was a direct result of their being trafficked in either of these ways.

H. 3865 Additional Optional Coroner Candidate Qualifications

H. 3865 has also gone to a Conference Committee after the House nonconcurred in Senate amendments made to it. Under existing state law, all candidates for coroner must meet all standards set out on a list of minimum qualifications in order to be able to serve in this office. In addition to these minimum qualifications, they also must meet at least one listed qualification from a second list of qualifications. This bill would add anyone with three years of experience as a licensed paramedic to this second qualifications list to become a coroner.

H. 4187 Felony 'Smash And Grab' or Other Organized Retail Theft

The House and Senate have appointed conferees to a conference committee on **H. 4187** after failing to agree on its contents. It is legislation to revise the criminal offense of retail theft of more than \$2,000 worth of merchandise, property, money, gift cards, or other forms of credit to deprive a merchant of the full value of these items. It would do so by creating **the offenses of felony organized retail crime and felony organized retail crime of an aggravated nature** by two or more people acting in concert. These crimes would have to be shown to have been committed with an intent by these thieves to sell, barter, exchange, or re-enter the stolen items into the stream of commerce for their own personal monetary, or other, gain.

S. 445 Voluntary Certification Program for Recovery Housing

The House gave third reading and enrolled for ratification **S. 445**, a bill that **creates a voluntary certification program for recovery housing**. It is unlawful for an owner or operator of recovery housing that is not certified to advertise or otherwise represent

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that such recovery housing is certified. Among many things, the bill outlines that the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services shall establish protocols and guidance requiring the credentialing entity (an organization approved to certify recovery housing) to establish recovery housing certification requirements consistent with nationally recognized quality standards such as the standards established by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) or Oxford House. The Department shall approve one credentialing entity within six months of the effective date of this provision. The credentialing entity shall determine standards for recovery housing in consultation with the department. Different standards for different classifications or categories of recovery housing are permissible; however, at a minimum, standards for all classifications or categories must require recovery housing to include but not limited to having a clear mission and vision, with forthright legal and ethical codes, including the requirement to be financially honest with prospective residents. As a result, the department shall publish a registry of the names of all certified recovery housing on its website. The bill defines "recovery housing" as recovery residences, recovery homes, sober living homes, work rehab homes, three quarter houses, and other similar dwellings that provide individuals recovering from alcohol and substance use disorders with a living environment free from alcohol and illicit substance use. An owner or operator of recovery housing who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 per occurrence.

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H. 5246 Black Skimmer/Brown Pelican

The House accepted the Senate's amendment to H. 5246 making the eastern brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) the official seabird of the South Carolina. The bill is being enrolled for ratification. The original House bill would have designated the black skimmer as the official seabird of South Carolina. The Senate amendment posited the designating the brown pelican as the state seabird of South Carolina would highlight the importance of preserving and enhancing the habitat of this species and other seabirds along South Carolina's coastline and serve as a symbol of South Carolina's commitment to environmental stewardship and wildlife conservation.



H. 5023 Work Zone Safety Program Course

The House concurred in the Senate's technical amendments to H. 5023 and enrolled the bill for ratification. The bill would establish the **work zone safety program** within the Department of Motor Vehicles. The DMV must require all persons obtaining an initial driver's license, and who are required to complete a driver's education course to take the work zone safety program course.

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H. 4674 The Display of License Plates on Motor Vehicles

The Senate concurred in House amendments to H. 4674 and ordered the bill enrolled for ratification. H. 4674 would amend laws relating to the display and fastening of license plates, holding that license plates must be fastened to vehicles and to provide for the display of temporary license plates on large commercial vehicles (CMV) (in the windshield). In addition, the bill has become a vehicle for including H. 5024 regarding the retention of plates for a surviving spouse of a member of the National Guard and several special license plates. Those are motor vehicle license plates for the "Hearing Impaired"; the "South Carolina Equine Industry"; "Cherokee Indian Nation"; the "Catawba Nation"; the "University of South Carolina 2017, 2022, and 2024 Women's Basketball National Champions"; the "Autistic and Neurodivergent"; the "South Carolina Association for Pupil Transportation"; and, the "Navy and Marine Corps Medal" (plates reflective of valorous awards).

S. 207 Piedmont Gateway Scenic Byway

S. 207 was enrolled for ratification. It would create the **Piedmont Gateway Scenic Byway** and identifies the three segments that comprise the byway.

S. 968 Blood Type on Applications For Driver's Licenses

S. 968 was enrolled for ratification. It would allow an applicant for a driver's license to voluntarily disclose his blood type on a beginner's permit.

S. 974 Definitions Regarding Institutions and Scholarships

S. 974 was enrolled for ratification. It relates to the definition of "public or independent institution" for purposes of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarships, the Legislative Incentives for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarships, and the SC Hope Scholarships, respectively, so as to add an institution accredited by the accrediting commission of career schools and colleges to the definition. The House Education and Public Works Committee added ACCSC accreditation to the list of certifying entities.

H. 4601 Preventing The Escape of Loose Material and Debris

The House non-concurred with Senate amendments to H. 4601 and upon the Senate receding from its amendment, the bill was ordered to be enrolled for ratification. H. 4601 would amend current law relating to preventing escape of materials loaded on vehicles by incorporating that "No person shall operate on any highway any vehicle with any load unless such load and any covering thereon is securely fastened so as to prevent such covering or load from becoming loose, detached or in any manner a hazard to other users of the highway." The provisions would not be applicable to and do not restrict the transportation of certain agricultural products.

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S. 125 Scholarship Stipends

The Senate concurred with House amendments and has enrolled the bill for ratification. S. 125 relates to additional LIFE scholarship stipends, extending the stipend to education majors (including math and science majors) where recipients must upon graduation work in a South Carolina public school for one year for every year the stipend is received. A person who is a math or science education major and who qualified for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship STEM stipend before the 2024-2025 School Year shall remain so qualified and eligible for the STEM stipend and is exempt from the contractual work requirement of education majors. This language essentially grandfathers in the math and science education majors who are already using the STEM stipend. A student who uses a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship to attend an eligible two-year institution shall receive a maximum of four continuous semesters and may continue to use the scholarship to attend an eligible four-year institution, subject to the maximum number of semesters for which the student may be eligible for the scholarship. The Committee added accounting majors under the STEM Scholarship stipend for LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship recipients. And the Committee added language that allows for modification of the minimum SAT/ACT if after the 2024-2025 school year, the scoring scale range of the SAT is changed, then CHE shall adjust the minimum SAT/ACT score to maintain a minimum scoring requirement that is the functional equivalent of the 2024-2025 standard.

S. 862 Caregiver Requirements

The House non-concurred in Senate amendments to S. 862 leading to the appointment of a conference committee (*House: Reps. Erickson, Hartnett and J. L. Johnson; Senate: Sens. Shealey, Young and McElveen*).

S. 862 relates to caregiver requirements and would provide for educational and pre-service training requirements. The House adopted that the number of days allowed for training is increased from 5 to 30; self-reported incidents made by a representative of a childcare facility are not considered to be a complaint. Operators of private childcare facilities must complete the following: a minimum of 15 hours of approved training every year for the first 5 years of operation or employment; only 10 annual hours are required for operators and employees with between 5 and 20 years of experience; and operators and employees with more than 20 years' experience do not have to receive training unless it is required for health and safety purposes. (First Steps SDE and DSS may provide up to 5 hours of the training virtually). The bill removes the requirement that an individual must have at least six months experience as a caregiver or be directly supervised - an effort to address labor needs and accommodate otherwise qualified workers (with

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an amendment in full committee accommodating high school equivalency (Certificate of Completion) indication with associated training requirements).

Education and Public Works Committee-Reviewed House Bills in Conference Committee:

S. 946 Regulation of Childcare Facilities

S. 946 relates to the State Advisory Committee on the Regulation of Childcare Facilities and would change the organization and requirements of the members. When the Senate non-concurred in the House amendment, the House appointed a conference committee (House: Reps. Erickson, Hartnett and J. L. Johnson; Senate: none).

The House adopted the Education and Public Works Committee's recommendation to add the Executive Director of First Steps and the State Child Advocate to serve as *ex officio* nonvoting members; also, the number of parents on the committee is reduced from 4 to 3 and 2 of the parents instead of 3 must represent for-profit entities; and the number of members representing childcare facilities was reduced from 7 to 6 and the number of for-profit entity representatives is reduced from 5 to 4. The full Committee added an amendment adding that a representative of the private facilities must be from a registered faith based center.

S. 305 Work Experience and Teaching Certificates

H. 4280 Educator Assistance Act

The House non-concurred with Senate amendments to S. 305 (the Senate putting their language back in), but no further action was taken by the Senate. The bill would provide that an individual's prior work experience may be awarded on an initial teaching certificate if the prior experience is in or related to the content field of the certificate (existing certificate holders may also receive the same credit for prior work experience). The House amended so that instead of one year of credit being awarded for every two years of experience, one year of credit will be given for each year of experience. In most instances, "teacher salary schedule" is replaced with "State Minimum Teacher Salary Schedule." Educators may be entitled to have their pay adjusted in regard to the district salary schedule instead of the change being mandatory and the State Department of Education will have 180 days instead of 90 to have the form developed to determine experience credit. **H. 4280, the Educator Assistance Act**, was added – exactly as adopted by the House and sent to the Senate last year.

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S. 124 Hiring Noncertified Teachers

H. [4280 Educator Assistance Act](#)

The House non-concurred with Senate amendments to S. 124, but no further action was taken by the Senate. The bill proposes to establish a pilot program that would allow public school districts to hire noncertified teachers. The pilot program would permit districts to hire noncertified teachers of up to 10 percent of its entire teaching staff. The bill outlines certain academic, evaluation, and experience requirements that noncertified teachers must meet to be eligible for hire under the pilot program. It further requires annual program reporting and registration and clearance requirements for noncertified teachers participating in the program. The House added **H. 4280 (the Educator Assistance Act)** -- exactly as adopted by the House and sent to the Senate *last* year. References to ratings of "excellent," "below average," and "unsatisfactory" were removed -- instead, "critical needs certification area" is added as a way for schools to participate in the pilot program. Schools may hire noncertified teachers in a ratio of up to 25 percent of its entire teaching staff instead of 10 percent. The pilot program is considered to be renewed after five years unless ended by the General Assembly. Reporting dismissed noncertified teachers is added and teachers are guaranteed 4 days for professional development at the beginning of the school year and 2 days must be for self-directed work to prepare for the beginning of the school year. Language requested by law enforcement regarding fingerprinting and background checks is added.

S. 557 Apprenticeship Income Tax Credit Provisions

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **S. 557**, legislation **enhancing apprenticeship income tax credit provisions**, and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation provides that the amount of the credit is equal to the greater of the cost of the apprenticeship or \$1,000 for each apprentice employed, but not to exceed \$4,000 for an apprentice, or \$6,000 for the youth apprenticeship program. If the apprentice completes the apprenticeship and remains an employee of the taxpayer, the taxpayer may claim the \$1,000 credit for up to three additional taxable years. The maximum aggregate credit for all taxpayers may not exceed five million dollars in any one tax year. The General Assembly, in the annual general appropriations act, may increase or decrease this maximum aggregate credit amount. Any unused credit may be carried forward for three years.

S. 1021 Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **S. 1021** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation revises **the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act** that extend the act's provisions through 2035 and increase the amount of the maximum tax credit that may be earned from \$500,000 to \$700,000. The legislation includes

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Short Line Railroad Modernization provisions that allow for an income tax credit equal to 50 percent of an eligible taxpayer's qualified railroad reconstruction or replacement expenditures as a means of encouraging the rehabilitation of certain comparatively small rail lines. An annual cap of \$1.5 million is established for these tax credits and the provisions are repealed at the end of 2028.

H. 4832 Paid Family Leave Insurance Act

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 4832, the "Paid Family Leave Insurance Act,"** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation establishes a framework for optional family leave insurance policies issued to employers that allow them to provide employees with a benefit program that pays for a percentage or portion of the employee's income loss due to: the birth or adoption of a child; the placement of a child with the employee for foster care; care of a family member who has a serious health condition; or, the status of a family member who is a service member on active duty or who has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty. The Department of Insurance is charged with making an annual report on the utilization of family leave insurance.

S. 728 Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan

The House approved **S. 728** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation revises eligibility criteria for the **Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan** to allow plan participation for non-residents of South Carolina who work in the state and extend eligibility to employees of the State Fire Marshal.

S. 610 Professional Counseling Compact Act

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **S. 610, the "Professional Counseling Compact Act,"** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation authorizes South Carolina to enter into a compact to facilitate the interstate practice of licensed professional counselors with the goal of improving public access to professional counseling services.

S. 700 "South Carolina Earned Wage Access Services Act"

The House returned **S. 700, the "South Carolina Earned Wage Access Services Act,"** to the Senate with amendments. The Senate subsequently concurred in the House amendments and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation establishes guidelines and requirements governing the provision of earned wage access services which allow consumers to obtain wages they have already earned ahead of their employer's regularly scheduled payday.

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S. 881 Prohibition of Unfair Real Estate Service Agreements Act

The House approved **S. 881**, the “**Prohibition of Unfair Real Estate Service Agreements Act**,” and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation prohibits the use of certain real estate service agreements as unfair to an owner of residential real estate or to other persons who may become owners of that real estate in the future. Under the legislation, a real estate service agreement is considered in violation, unfair, and void if the agreement is to be in effect for more than one year and either expressly or implicitly aims to do any of the following: (1) run with the land or bind future owners of residential real estate identified in the real estate service agreement; (2) allow for the assignment of the right to provide services without notice or consent of the owner or buyer; or, (3) create a lien, encumbrance, or other real property security interest. The legislation also prohibits the recording of such residential real estate service agreements so that the public records will not be clouded by them and provides remedies for owners who are inconvenienced or damaged by the recording of such agreements. The legislation allows for the recovery of damages, costs, and attorney’s fees from service providers who violate the act’s prohibitions and provides for causes of action to be brought under the South Carolina Unfair Trade Practices Act.

S. 434 Automatic Renewal Provisions In Service Contracts

The House returned **S. 434**, a bill addressing **automatic renewal provisions in service contracts**, to the Senate with amendments. The Senate subsequently concurred in the House amendments and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation provides that no automatic renewal provision in a service contract shall be enforceable against the contract holder unless the contract holder was presented written or electronic notification of that automatic renewal provision not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days before the cancellation deadline required by the automatic renewal provision. This notification shall conspicuously disclose: (A) that unless the service contract holder cancels the contract, the contract will automatically renew; (B) the amount that will be charged upon renewal; and (C) methods by which the service contract holder may obtain details of the automatic renewal provision and cancellation procedure, which shall include a toll-free telephone number, electronic email address, a postal address if the seller directly bills the consumer, or another cost-effective, timely, and easy-to-use mechanism for cancellation.

H. 4754 Real Estate Professionals

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 4754** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation makes comprehensive revisions and updates to the provisions gov-

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erning the licensing and regulation of **real estate brokers, brokers-in-charge, associates, and property managers**. The revisions include: prohibiting the practice of “wholesaling” which involves having a contractual interest in purchasing residential real estate from a property owner, then marketing the property for sale to a different buyer prior to taking legal ownership of the property; enhancing provisions for brokers-in-charge to provide for greater responsibility; updating advertising rules; raising the minimum fine for violations from \$5,000 to \$10,000; establishing criminal background checks for associates; and, specifying that licensees are responsible for all work product generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence, machine learning, or similar programs.

H. 4869 Regulation of Insurers

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **H. 4869**, relating to **Department of Insurance procedures**, and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation implements recommendations from the Department of Insurance for revising various provisions relating to the regulation of insurers. These revisions include: confidentiality provisions for workpapers and other materials involved in pending investigations; authority for conducting a market analysis and participate in multistate examinations of market practices; and, more expansive provisions clarifying that an insurer or producer, by or through employees, affiliates or third-party representatives, may offer value-added products or services at no or reduced cost.

S. 962 Pharmacy Service Administrative Organizations

The House concurred in Senate amendments to **S. 962** and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation revises the duties of **pharmacy service administrative organizations** established in Act 30 of 2023 to remove the requirement that pharmacy service administrative organizations must act as fiduciaries to pharmacies.

H. 4116 Funeral Directors

The House adopted the conference committee report on **H. 4116**, a bill making revisions relating to the licensure and regulation of **funeral directors and other licensed funeral service providers**. Continuing education requirements are enhanced, including a requirement for one credit hour to be an ethics in funeral service course. The legislation provides that it is unlawful to aid and abet those who are unlicensed to engage in the practice of funeral service. Provisions are included to target the unlawful division of funeral service fees and other payments. The legislation enhances penalties for violations. The legislation includes a requirement that a licensed funeral director or embalmer who commits a violation must be reported to the State Board of Funeral Services for immediate investigation and disciplinary proceedings. The legislation provides a more detailed

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definition for cremation. A funeral home manager must live within a radius of seventy-five miles, rather than twenty-five miles, of the funeral home. The legislation makes revisions that allow requirements for displaying options to consumers to be satisfied with showing photographs or other representations of available caskets and other necessary funeral supplies.

H. 5118 "South Carolina Energy Security Act

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the House and Senate on H. 5118, the "**South Carolina Energy Security Act**". Drawing upon the work of the Economic Development and Utility Modernization Ad Hoc Committee established by the Speaker of the House, this legislation includes restructuring initiatives and makes comprehensive provisions as a means of promoting sufficient, reliable, safe, and economical energy crucial to the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of South Carolina and to the state's economic development and prosperity.

H. 5100 Fiscal Year 2024-2025 State Government Budget

H. 5101 Capital Reserve Fund

Conference committees were appointed to address the differences between the House and Senate on H. 5100, the **Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Appropriation Bill**, and H. 5101, the joint resolution making appropriations from the **Capital Reserve Fund**.

H. 4087 Tax Incentives for Economic Development

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the House and Senate on H. 4087, legislation enhancing **tax incentives for economic development**. The legislation expands the income tax credit provisions for establishing a corporate headquarters in South Carolina. The legislation lowers the minimum investment threshold from three hundred million to one hundred million for a qualified recycling facility to be eligible for tax credits. Batteries, solar panels, turbines and related structures are included in the definition of "postconsumer waste material" for recycling facilities. Provisions in the Enterprise Zone Act of 1995 are revised to allow remote employees working in South Carolina to be included in certain job creation requirements and adds incentives for certain investments. The legislation revises provisions relating to the Enterprise Zone Act credit against withholding for retraining employees to provide who is eligible for the credit and the amount of the credit allowed. In order to recruit an eligible business to this state or encourage an expanded investment in South Carolina, the legislation provides authority for the Secretary of Commerce, subject to approval by the Joint Bond Review Committee, to allow an eligible business to sell, exchange, or

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otherwise transfer job tax credits they have earned. The sale or exchange of credits applies to state income tax credits earned from 2022 until 2029 by a business that is headquartered in this state, or whose primary business is in: research and development; the production of microchips, semiconductors, or circuit boards and other electronics components; the production of pharmaceuticals, including active pharmaceutical ingredients; advanced manufacturing; life sciences; or new, emerging, or high technologies.

S. 1017 Property Tax Exemption for Nonprofit Housing Corporations

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the Senate and House on **S. 1017**, a bill revising criteria for the **property tax exemption for nonprofit housing corporations**. The legislation includes provisions **expanding the renewable energy resource property tax exemption** so that it applies to solar panels on commercial property.

S. 577 Tax Rates, Background Checks, Federal Defense Facilities Redevelopment

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the Senate and the House on **S. 577**, a bill **updating references to the top marginal income tax rate** under provisions relating to the withholding of income taxes to bring them into conformity with income tax relief initiatives. The legislation revises state provisions to bring them into compliance with **federal requirements for criminal history background checks for those with access to federal tax information**. The legislation includes provisions **revising the state's "Federal Defense Facilities Redevelopment Law" to include affordable housing** projects as redevelopment projects.

S. 969 Tax Deductions For First Responders

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the Senate and House on **S. 969**. The bill enhances **tax deductions for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical service personnel**. The legislation revises deductions from individual taxable income to increase the subsistence deduction amount for certain paid public servants such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical service personnel. The legislation increases the volunteer exemption amount for unpaid public servants in these positions. The legislation includes provisions revising the **clinical preceptor income tax credit** afforded physicians, advanced practice nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who provide supervision and instruction during student clinical training experiences for a public teaching institution or independent institution of higher learning. Eligibility is expanded to include training in such specialty care as dermatology, hematology, neurology, and oncology. Under the legislation, the credit is equal to \$1,000 for each rotation served, not to exceed \$4,000 a

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year. The provider must be a Medicaid participating provider and have a minimum of at least 100 Medicaid and Medicare patients combined or be a free clinic. The credit is available through 2029. The legislation includes provisions addressing the **exemption of groceries from Local Option Sales Taxes for transportation facilities**. County governing bodies are afforded the option of exempting unprepared food items eligible for purchase with United States Department of Agriculture food coupons from Local Option Sales Taxes for transportation facilities authorized through a referendum held on or after November 5, 2024.

S. 314 Higher Education Permanent Improvement Projects

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the Senate and House on **S. 314**, a bill revising provisions for the **review of major higher education permanent improvement projects** as a means of streamlining the approval process.

S. 1031 Uniform Money Services Act

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the Senate and House on **S. 1031**, a bill establishing the **Uniform Money Services Act**.

H. 4843 Use of Marinas and Commercial Decks Located in Critical Coastal Areas

A conference committee was appointed to address the differences between the House and Senate on **H. 4843**, a bill addressing the **authority for businesses to use their marinas and commercial decks located in coastal critical areas**.

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Note to the reader regarding these Legislative Summaries

Sources

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- 3) the end of session summaries (with index).

Style

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