The Senate

The Senate is composed of 46 Senators elected on November 8, 2016 for terms of four years (Const. Art. III, Sec. 6). Pursuant to Sec. 2-1-65 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 49 of 1995, each Senator is elected from one of forty-six numbered single-member senatorial districts. Candidates for the office of Senator must be legal residents of the district from which they seek election. Each senatorial district contains a population of approximately one/forty-sixth of the total population of the State based on the 2010 Federal Census.

First year legislative service stated means the year the Member attended his first session.

Abbreviations: [D] after name indicates Democrat, [R] after name indicates Republican; *b.* "born"; *g.* "graduated"; *m.* "married"; *s.* "son of"; *d.* "daughter of."

OFFICERS

President, Ex officio, Lieutenant Governor

BRYANT, Kevin Lee [R]—(for biography and picture see p. 17).

President *Pro Tempore*

LEATHERMAN, Hugh Kenneth, Sr. [R]—(Dist. No. 31, Darlington-*Florence* Cos.)—Businessman; residing in Florence; *g.* N.C. State Univ., B.S., 1953; Nov. 11, 1978 *m.* Jean Helms, 6 children; Pres., Leacon, Inc.; mem., Quinby Town Council, 1967–76; Mayor *Pro Tempore*, 1971–76; mem. *emeritus*: Francis Marion Univ. Bd. of Trustees & Science Adv. Bd.; Hollings Cancer Center Adv. Bd.; Chm., Finance Com.; VC, Transportation; Ethics Com.; Rules Com.; State House Com.; Interstate Cooperation; Labor, Commerce & Industry; Chm., Senate Operations & Mgmt. Com.; mem.: State Fiscal Accountability Authority; Chm., Salary Exec. & Performance Evaluation Comm.; Chm., Jt. Bond Review Com.; State Infrastructure Bank; mem., S.C. Research Authority Bd.; mem., Central

United Methodist Church; prev. serv. in Sen. 1981–16; elected Pres. *Pro Tempore* June 18, 2014 to succeed John E. Courson, resigned; resigned Pres. *Pro Tempore* Jan. 24, 2017; elected Pres. *Pro Tempore* Jan. 25, 2017 to succeed Kevin L. Bryant, resigned.

Clerk of the Senate

GOSSETT, Jeffrey S.—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; *s.* Cherryl Ann Sanders and the late Harry Kenneth Gossett; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1992, M.P.A., 1994; June 18, 1993 *m.* Susannah Paige Jones, 3 children; elected Clerk Jan. 9, 2001, serving continuously since.

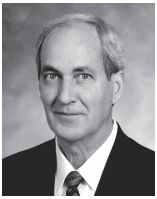
Assistant Clerk

MOFFITT, Kenneth M.—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; *g.* N.C. State Univ., B.A., 1993; Campbell Univ., J.D., 2001; Mar. 4, 2000 *m.* Shawna Barnett, 2 children, Hannah Grace and Marshall; apptd. Asst. Clerk Sept. 2, 2014, serving continuously since.

Reading Clerk

WIENGES, John Othniel—(Calhoun Co.)—residing at 102 Wienges Court, St. Matthews; *b.* Apr. 15, 1960; *s.* Othniel Henry and Carolyn (Phillips) Wienges; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1983; *m.* Kathryn Dawson Wienges, 3 children, John Othniel, Jr., William Trezevant, and Frances Wren; former Mayor, Town of St. Matthews; mem., St. Paul United Methodist Church; former Pres., Calhoun Co. Farm Bureau; Kappa Alpha Order; apptd. Asst. Clerk Mar. 1, 1988; elected Reading Clerk Jan. 11, 1994, serving continuously since.

Sergeant at Arms



MELTON, James R.—(Kershaw Co.)—residing at 1707 Broad St., Camden; *b.* Oct. 31, 1952 in Camden; *s.* the late William A. Melton and Phyllis Glover (Melton) Kelly; Sept. 1, 1972 *m.* Brenda Baker, 2 children, James Robert, Jr. and Julie Anne; First Baptist Church, Camden; apptd. Asst. Sgt. at Arms Oct. 1, 1986 and elected Jan. 13, 1987; apptd. Sgt. at Arms Nov. 21, 1989 and elected Jan. 9, 1990, serving continuously since.

Assistant Sergeant at Arms

WILLIAMS, Charles D., Jr. "Chuck"—(Lexington Co.)—residing at 328 Whiskery Lane, Irmo; *b.* Sept. 15, 1968 in Columbia; *s.* the late Charles D., Sr. and the late Mildred Irene Folk Williams; Oct. 12, 1991 *m.* Ashley Stafford, 2 children, Charles Andrew "Drew" and Harrison Stafford "Ford"; mem., St. Peters Catholic Church; mil. serv.: SCANG (Ret.), 1996–17; elected Asst. Sergeant at Arms Dec. 6, 2016.

Chaplain

BURRISS, Francis M.—(Lexington Co.)—Ordained Presbyterian Minister PCUSA; residing at 150 Creekwood Rd., Chapin; *b.* Aug. 18, 1949 in Columbia; *s.* T. Moffatt and Louisa Hay Burriss; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1971; Cola. Theological Seminary, D.Min., 1983; May 29, 1971 *m.* Nancy Stevens, 3 children, Elizabeth B., Nancy B. "Alle", and Louisa B.; The Burriss Co., Pres., 1975–83, (Commercial Investment Real Estate), Cola.; Senior Pastor, Lake Murray Presbyterian Church, Chapin, 1983–91; Pres./Founder, Med. Missions, Inc., 1992–13; elected Chaplain Jan. 10, 2017.