

South Carolina General Assembly
124th Session, 2021-2022

H. 4322

STATUS INFORMATION

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Cobb-Hunter, King, Brawley, K.O. Johnson, Garvin, J.L. Johnson, Henegan, Gilliard, R. Williams and Jefferson

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Introduced in the House on May 4, 2021

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Ways and Means**

Summary: Justice Forty Oversight Committee

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Action Description with journal page number</u>
5/4/2021	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 89)
5/4/2021	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 89)
5/6/2021	House	Recalled from Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 22)
5/6/2021	House	Committed to Committee on Ways and Means (House Journal-page 22)
5/11/2021	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: King, Brawley, K.O.Johnson, Garvin, J.L.Johnson, Henegan, Gilliard, R.Williams, Jefferson

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VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

TO CREATE THE “JUSTICE FORTY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE” TO STUDY OPPORTUNITIES TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THROUGH TARGETED EFFORTS IN CERTAIN COMMUNITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE, TO PROVIDE THAT THE COMMITTEE SUBMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ITS DISSOLUTION.

Whereas, President Biden unveiled a plan to rebuild the infrastructure of the United States and the plan sets the target of delivering forty percent of the overall benefits from the massive investment in clean energy and our infrastructure to disadvantaged communities; and

Whereas, through the use of tax credits, grants, and low-cost flexible loans, the President’s plan addresses racial and environmental injustice to invest in communities disparately impacted by pollution and provide these communities with the benefits of clean energy investments; and

Whereas, many South Carolinians see vast areas for improvement in the areas of housing, broadband access, and water systems throughout the State and active participation in the President’s plan could help provide affordable housing, reliable and affordable high-speed Internet access, and clean drinking water to everyone in our State; and

Whereas, it is important to seize the opportunities provided through this plan and create a committee to locate and help organize disadvantaged communities to ensure that these communities derive

1 the full benefit of these credits, grants, and loans to improve the
2 overall quality of life in South Carolina; and

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4 Whereas South Carolina cannot afford to fall behind in the push for
5 a cleaner and more just future. Now, therefore,

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7 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South
8 Carolina:

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10 SECTION 1. (A) There is created the thirteen member Justice
11 Forty Oversight Committee to study opportunities to address the
12 issue of environmental justice in South Carolina. The study
13 committee shall:

14 (1) identify disadvantaged and marginalized communities
15 throughout South Carolina with environmental justice impact;

16 (2) identify the infrastructure deficiencies in these
17 communities;

18 (3) assist members of the community in developing a plan to
19 apply for assistance to secure funding for the much needed
20 infrastructure projects; and

21 (4) undertake other actions necessary to carry out the purpose
22 of the committee.

23 (B) The study committee must be comprised of:

24 (1) two members of the House of Representatives who serve
25 on the Joint Bond Review Committee appointed by the Chairman of
26 the House Ways and Means Committee;

27 (2) two members of the Senate who serve on the Joint Bond
28 Review Committee appointed by the Chairman of the Senate
29 Finance Committee;

30 (3) the Director of Environmental Affairs for the Department
31 of Health and Environmental Control or his designee;

32 (4) the Director of the Office of Regulatory Services or his
33 designee;

34 (5) the Director of the Housing Finance and Development
35 Authority or his designee;

36 (6) the Director of the South Carolina Primary Health Care
37 Association or his designee;

38 (7) the Commissioner of Agriculture or his designee;

39 (8) a member of the White House Environmental Justice
40 Advisory Council;

41 (9) the Secretary of Transportation or his designee; and

42 (10) two members appointed by the Governor with experience
43 in the designation and implementation of Opportunity Zones.

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2 (C) The study committee shall work with the Department of
3 Health and Environmental Control's Office of Environmental
4 Affairs as well as any other appropriate entities while undertaking
5 its assigned duties.

6 (D) The House of Representatives and Senate shall provide
7 appropriate staffing for the committee.

8 (E) The study committee shall provide a report to the House
9 Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the
10 White House Council on Environmental Quality, and the White
11 House Environmental Justice Advisory Council by December 31,
12 2023, at which time the study committee shall dissolve.

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14 SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by
15 the Governor.

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