

## Session 126 - (2025-2026)

### H 4644 General Bill, By Pope and Edgerton

#### Summary: Paternity

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 63-17-80 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE DETERMINATION OF PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CHILD SUPPORT AND THE CREATION OF A PARENTING PLAN AND TIME-SHARING SCHEDULE FOR A CHILD OF UNMARRIED PARENTS; BY AMENDING SECTION 63-17-10, RELATING TO PATERNITY ACTIONS, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 63-5-30, RELATING TO RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PARENTS OF MINOR CHILDREN, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN UNMARRIED MOTHER AND A FATHER WHO HAS ESTABLISHED PATERNITY ARE THE NATURAL GUARDIANS OF THE CHILD.

**12/16/25 House Prefiled**

**12/16/25 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary**

**01/13/26 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 45)**

**01/13/26 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 45)**