



South
Carolina
State Senate
Press Office

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Senate
Pro Tempore
Communications
Director**
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This week in the Senate

May 1 - May 5, 2017

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This week, the Senate adopted [S. 672](#), known as the Sine Die Resolution. If it is adopted by the House, all bills not enrolled for ratification or assigned to a conference committee by 5 p.m. this Thursday will hold in place until next January. The Senate also reconvenes Monday at 1 p.m. to begin finalizing legislation before adjournment.

A conference committee on the state budget bill, [H. 3720](#), and the capital reserve fund bill, [H. 3721](#), will be meeting to consider the differences in House and Senate versions.

Discussions of the state budget will dominate much of the work of the General Assembly as the end of session approaches. Work on the state budget coincides with plans to reach a consensus and approve [H. 3516](#), commonly called the roads bill.

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Other bills passed by the Senate this week include:

READ THIRD TIME:

[H. 3349](#) - Revises provisions of the Nurse Licensure Compact, which consists of 25 states including South Carolina, and allows a nurse who is licensed and is in good standing in a compact state to practice in any of the other compact states.

[H. 3587](#) - Creates a Seizure Safety in Schools Study Committee consisting of fourteen members to review information concerning the state of epilepsy awareness in public schools and basic training in seizure responses, among other information.

[H. 3247](#) - Requires a moped operated on a public road or highway to be registered and licensed with the DMV. The bill also expands the definition of a motor vehicle to include mopeds for the purpose of uninsured and underinsured motorist insurance coverage.

[H. 3441](#) - Allows an employer's representative to make payments for workers' compensation by check or electronic payment including, but not limited to, an electronic funds transfer, a direct deposit, debit card or similar payment system.

[H. 3879](#) - Increases burial expenses payable under workers' compensation laws for accidental workplace deaths.

[H. 3531](#) - Imposes restrictions on the ownership of large wild cats, non-native bears and great apes for conservation efforts and protecting the public against potential safety risks.

[H. 3559](#) - Creates a three-year pilot program for the cultivation of industrial hemp.

[H. 3150](#) - Requires a municipality to hold an election to fill a vacancy even if one candidate has filed for the office to be filled.

[S. 648](#) - Senators Scott, Setzler, McLeod, Jackson and McElveen: In relation to the disposal of surplus property by Midlands Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority, this bill provides that the exemption of the authority from surplus property laws applies to real, personal and mixed property in certain circumstances.

[H. 3861](#) - Makes certain revisions to state law to allow South Carolina to maintain real estate license reciprocity arrangements with other states.

[H. 3538](#) - Establishes provisions that parental rights cannot be terminated solely on the basis of a parent's disability.

[H. 4003](#) - Allows and gives authority to the Department of Agriculture to oversee safety standard programs that are applicable to certain farm produce.

[S. 109](#) - Senator McElveen: Establishes a misdemeanor offense for the operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle within a particular distance of a state or federal military installation when the operator doesn't have written consent from the installation commander.

[S. 169](#) - Senators Shealy and McLeod: Requires actions for restraining orders to protect unemancipated minors under the age of 18 from first or second degree harassment or stalking to be brought by the minor's parent, legal guardian or legal custodian, unless the requirement is not in the best interest of the minor. The bill also amends the Comprehensive Health Education Act to require local school boards to include a teen dating violence component in the district's comprehensive health education program for students in grades nine through twelve.

READ SECOND TIME:

[H. 3817](#) - Allows pharmacies, distributors, manufacturers and treatment programs to register as collectors of unused prescription medications and other controlled substances as part of law enforcement controlled substance programs known as "take-back" events.

[H. 3220](#) - Reestablishes the South Carolina Education and Economic Development Coordinating Council to review the progress, results and compliance with the Education and Economic Development Act and to make recommendations for better achieving the act's goals of implementing career pathways in the state's public schools and fostering a better prepared workforce and student success in postsecondary education.

[H. 3927](#) - Provides that bonds issued by the Jobs-Economic Development Authority or JEDA to provide funds for its programs must be approved by the Coordinating Council for Economic Development rather than the State Fiscal Accountability Authority.

[H. 3883](#) - Modernizes South Carolina laws covering Ponzi, pyramid, and other such scams under the South Carolina Unfair Trade Practices Act

Look ahead to next week and beyond:

The work of the conference committee on the budget will be complicated by the House's strategy of bobtailing their roads bill as a permanent Part II in the budget - a practice eliminated by the Senate more than 15 years ago. As a result, Senator Leatherman introduced [S. 671](#), a continuing resolution that would keep South Carolina operating if a budget agreement is not reached by July 1.

Sine Die adjournment is Thursday, May 11. The resolution for Sine Die also sets up the General Assembly's schedule to return on Tuesday, May 23 for a final wrap up of the year.