**Thursday, February 20, 2014**

**(Statewide Session)**

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

## Indicates New Matter

The Senate assembled at 11:00 A.M., the hour to which it stood adjourned, and was called to order by the PRESIDENT.

A quorum being present, the proceedings were opened with a devotion by the Chaplain as follows:

We are cautioned in the Book of Proverbs to remember that:

“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is

better than silver or gold.” (Proverbs 22:1)

Bow with me as we pray, if you will:

Gracious Lord, as it always seems, the wisdom of Proverbs hits the target. As the Sochi games conclude this weekend, the reigning medals may indeed be bronze, silver, and gold. And even here in South Carolina a “gold standard” may be coveted. Nonetheless, O God, we realize that, truly, a respected and honored name is rightly valued above all else. Therefore, we humbly pray that You will continue to encourage each of these Senators -- *all* of our state’s officials, really -- to lift up the name “South Carolina,” to enhance the positive qualities of life here and to bring about favorable opportunities for all of our citizens. May the ultimate glory, dear Lord, always be yours. Amen.

**Point of Quorum**

At 11:08 A.M., Senator SETZLER made the point that a quorum was not present. It was ascertained that a quorum was not present.

**RECESS**

At 11:08 A.M., on motion of Senator SETZLER, the Senate receded from business pending the presence of a quorum.

At 11:22 A.M., the Senate resumed.

The PRESIDENT called for Petitions, Memorials, Presentments of Grand Juries and such like papers.

**MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR**

The following appointments were transmitted by the Honorable Nikki Randhawa Haley:

**Statewide Appointments**

Reappointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence June 30, 2013, and to expire June 30, 2017

3rd Congressional District:

Kristopher D. Clark, 2310 Earls Bridge Road, Easley, SC 29640

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Initial Appointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence May 19, 2012, and to expire May 19, 2019

7th Congressional District:

Merrell W. Floyd, 513 Merrywood Road, Conway, SC 29526 *VICE* Vacant due to redistricting

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Initial Appointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence May 19, 2012, and to expire May 19, 2019

At-Large:

Catherine E. Heigel, 300 Waccamaw Ave., Greenville, SC 29605 *VICE* Cecile E. Viverette

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Reappointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence May 19, 2013, and to expire May 19, 2020

6th Congressional District:

John Calhoun Land IV, P.O. Box 138, Manning, SC 29102

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Initial Appointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence June 30, 2008, and to expire June 30, 2015

Georgetown County:

Danny Joe Ray, 735 Beach Bridge Road, Pawleys Island, SC 29585 *VICE* David Springs

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Initial Appointment, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Public Service Authority, with the term to commence May 15, 2008, and to expire May 15, 2015

2nd Congressional District:

Jack F. Wolfe, Jr., 2012 Johnson Marina Rd., Chapin, SC 29036 *VICE* Leighton Lord

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Initial Appointment, Board of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, with the term to commence July 31, 2012, and to expire July 31, 2016

7th Congressional District:

William Lee Hewitt III, 360 Little Tony Avenue, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 *VICE* Vacant due to redistricting

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

Reappointment, South Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, with the term to commence June 30, 2008, and to expire June 30, 2015

2nd Congressional District:

Rhonda J. Presha, 92 Westridge Road, Elgin, SC 29045

Referred to the General Committee.

Initial Reappointment, South Carolina State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation, with the term to commence May 15, 2007, and to expire May 15, 2014

4th Congressional District:

Roxzanne B. Breland, 11 Weatherby Ct., Greenville, SC 29615

Referred to the General Committee.

Reappointment, South Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, with the term to commence May 15, 2014, and to expire May 15, 2021

4th Congressional District:

Roxanne B. Breland, 11 Weatherby Ct., Greenville, SC 29615

Referred to the General Committee.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Athletic Commission, with the term to commence June 30, 2012, and to expire June 30, 2016

4th Congressional District:

Paul H. Kennemore, 367 Meathward Circle, Moore, SC 29369 *VICE* Alan Wells

Referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Board of Medical Examiners, with the term to commence June 30, 2010, and to expire June 30, 2014

At-Large - General Public:

Mary Elizabeth Phillips, 507 Hamilton Street, Beaufort, SC 29902 *VICE* Jackie D. Black

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

Reappointment, South Carolina State Board of Medical Examiners, with the term to commence June 30, 2014, and to expire June 30, 2018

At-Large - General Public:

Mary Elizabeth Phillips, 507 Hamilton Street, Beaufort, SC 29902

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Board of Medical Examiners, with the term to commence December 31, 2010, and to expire December 31, 2014

At-Large - Gubernatorial:

Daniel F. Sadd, 112 Strathmoore Dr., Greer, SC 29650 *VICE* Dr. Louis E. Costa

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

**Local Appointment**

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, with the term to commence June 1, 2013, and to expire June 1, 2019

1st Congressional District:

Warren L. Helm, 3105 Yatchman Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 *VICE* Dan P. Gray

**Doctor of the Day**

Senator LEATHERMAN introduced Dr. Coleman Floyd Buckhouse, specializing in Anesthesiology, of Florence, S.C., Doctor of the Day.

**Leave of Absence**

On motion of Senator McELVEEN, at 1:45 P.M., Senator JACKSON was granted a leave of absence for the balance of the day.

**Leave of Absence**

On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, at 1:45 P.M., Senator CAMPBELL was granted a leave of absence for the balance of the day.

**Expression of Personal Interest**

Senator GROOMS rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

The following co-sponsors were added to the respective Bills:

S. 1042 Sen. McGill

S. 1035 Sen. Verdin

S. 569 Sens. O’Dell, Cromer

S. 865 Sen. Cromer

S. 912 Sen. Malloy

**Remarks by Senator GROOMS**

Members of the Senate, I wanted to brief you on an issue that may have significant impact within your districts sometime later this summer unless some things change in Congress. It has to do with the Federal Highway Trust Fund. The Federal Highway Trust Fund is something that our State is greatly dependent upon.

Our federal gasoline tax goes to Washington. It goes into the Federal Highway Trust Fund and has about $34 billion annually flowing into it. But it has about $46 billion flowing out of it. From time to time, over the last decade, Congress has authorized a transfer of other funds into the highway trust fund to keep it afloat, to keep it from being upside down. The latest projections show that the highway trust fund will be upside down sometime around August of this year. Having the Highway Trust Fund at a zero fund balance would greatly disrupt activities within our Department of Transportation and their on-going activities with highway projects. The DOT Commission was made aware of this at a budget briefing I attended this morning. They seem to be less concerned about this than I am. It will take congressional action sometime between now and August to transfer funds into the Highway Trust Fund in order to keep the fund afloat.

Should the Highway Trust Fund reach a zero balance, it would affect all the states in the union but some would be particularly hit hard, like South Carolina. Sometimes we apply to the Federal Highway Trust Fund four times a month for reimbursement on federal projects. Moneys are obligated to pay our State on federally-obligated projects but if the bank account is zero, there will be a disruption in those payments. A disruption in those payments for more than six weeks would then affect the Department of Transportation's ability to pay its vendors in a timely basis.

The cash flow crunch that the Department of Transportation had about two years ago could be minor compared to what would happen if Congress does not authorize additional transfers into the Federal Highway Trust Fund. I asked the acting Department of Transportation Secretary about two weeks ago if there was a plan for this and she said it would be a good idea if we had a plan for this.

I believe some commissioners are asking the same questions today. What happens six months out, three months out, two months out, one month out if the fund runs out of money? This is more than Congress just re-authorizing the current Federal Highway Bill. They have done that. The problem is current funding levels for the Federal Highway Bill are not sufficient for its federal obligations across the states. It would affect states a little bit differently. The State of Florida, for example, generally applies to the Federal Highway Administration once a year for obligations. Federally obligated roads in the State of Florida are paid for with their state dollars. Then once a year, they apply for federal government reimbursement. We do that sometimes four times a month. They could go nearly a year before there is a disruption in their highway projects, whereas we could go only about six weeks.

I bring this to the members' attention to let you know the dire circumstances. I am concerned at this point that we may run into a cash-flow crisis and I have shared those concerns.

On motion of Senator VERDIN, with unanimous consent, the remarks of Senator GROOMS were ordered printed in the Journal.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

The following were introduced:

S. 1043 -- Senator L. Martin: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CONGRATULATE THE PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2013 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, AND TO APPLAUD COACH JENNIFER GRAVELY, HER STAFF, AND THE PLAYERS ON A STELLAR SEASON.

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The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 1044 -- Senator L. Martin: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GOLF TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

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The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 1045 -- Senators Bright, Shealy and Corbin: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 23-31-215, RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF A CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMIT, TO REMOVE THE APPLICATION FEE OF FIFTY DOLLARS, THE REPLACEMENT FEE OF FIVE DOLLARS, AND THE RENEWAL FEE OF FIFTY DOLLARS; TO REPEAL SECTION 23-31-216, RELATING TO THE COLLECTION AND RETENTION OF FEES BY THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 23-31-600, RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN IDENTIFICATION CARD TO A RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, TO REMOVE THE COLLECTION OF ANY FEE.

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Senator BRIGHT spoke on the Bill.

Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 1046 -- Senators Matthews and Hutto: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. HENRY N. TISDALE, PRESIDENT OF CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY, AND MRS. ALICE CARSON TISDALE, DIRECTOR OF THE HONORS COLLEGE OF CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM UPON BEING NAMED PEOPLE OF THE YEAR BY THE TIMES AND DEMOCRAT NEWSPAPER.

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The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

H. 4482 -- Rep. Ridgeway: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 1-1-691 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE WOOLY MAMMOTH IS DESIGNATED AS THE OFFICIAL STATE FOSSIL OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 4642 -- Reps. Gagnon, Gambrell and Southard: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 72 THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE CALHOUN FALLS TOWN LIMITS "CHIEF BILLY HAYNIE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY" AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS "CHIEF BILLY HAYNIE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

The Concurrent Resolution was introduced and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

H. 4647 -- Reps. Pitts, Willis and Anthony: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 7-7-360, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS IN LAURENS COUNTY, SO AS TO REVISE BOUNDARIES OF EXISTING PRECINCTS AND TO DESIGNATE THE MAP NUMBER ON WHICH THE BOUNDARIES OF LAURENS COUNTY VOTING PRECINCTS AS REVISED BY THIS ACT MAY BE FOUND AND MAINTAINED BY THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS OF THE STATE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD.

Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

**Message from the House**

Columbia, S.C., February 20, 2014

Mr. President and Senators:

The House respectfully informs your Honorable Body that it has returned the following Bill to the Senate with amendments:

S. 405 -- Senator L. Martin: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 1‑23‑560, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT TO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES AND THE ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THESE RULES BY THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION, SO AS TO PROVIDE INSTEAD THAT THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT SHALL HANDLE COMPLAINTS AGAINST ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES FOR POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT IN THE SAME MANNER AS COMPLAINTS AGAINST OTHER JUDGES.

Very respectfully,

Speaker of the House

Received as information.

**Message from the House**

Columbia, S.C., February 18, 2014

Mr. President and Senators:

The House respectfully informs your Honorable Body that it has confirmed the appointment:

**LOCAL APPOINTMENT**

Appointment, South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, with term to commence June 1, 2013, and to expire June 1, 2019

1st Congressional District:

Mr. Warren L. Helm, 3105 Yachtsman Drive, Mount Pleasant, SC 29466 *VICE* Mr. Dan P. Gray

Very respectfully,

Speaker of the House

Received as information.

**HOUSE CONCURRENCES**

The following Concurrent Resolutions were returned from the House with concurrence and received as information:

S. 1043 -- Senator L. Martin: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CONGRATULATE THE PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2013 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE, AND TO APPLAUD COACH JENNIFER GRAVELY, HER STAFF, AND THE PLAYERS ON A STELLAR SEASON.

S. 1044 -- Senator L. Martin: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GOLF TEAM, COACHES, AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM FOR WINNING THE 2013 CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

**THE SENATE PROCEEDED TO A CALL OF THE UNCONTESTED LOCAL AND STATEWIDE CALENDAR.**

**THIRD READING BILLS**

The following Bills were read the third time and ordered sent to the House of Representatives:

S. 268 -- Senator L. Martin: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 19‑5‑520 SO AS TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN RECORDS OF REGULARLY CONDUCTED ACTIVITY, OR BUSINESS RECORDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL RULE 902(11) AND (12).

S. 809 -- Senator Leatherman: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 4‑10‑330, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX, SO AS TO DELETE A PROVISION ALLOWING THE REFERENDUM FOR IMPOSITION OR REIMPOSITION TO BE HELD AT A TIME OTHER THAN AT THE TIME OF THE GENERAL ELECTION.

S. 913 -- Senator Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 9, TITLE 50 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES, BY ADDING SECTION 50‑9‑675 TO PROVIDE FOR A PERMIT TO ENGAGE IN FALCONRY IN THIS STATE, THE FEE FOR THE PERMIT, AND THAT A PERSON HOLDING A VALID FEDERAL FALCONRY PERMIT ON JANUARY 1, 2014, MAY ENGAGE IN FALCONRY WITHOUT A SOUTH CAROLINA FALCONER’S PERMIT UNTIL THE FEDERAL PERMIT EXPIRES; AND TO AMEND CHAPTER 11, TITLE 50, RELATING TO PROTECTION OF GAME, BY ADDING SECTION 50‑11‑50 TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF FALCONRY AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED**

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 876 -- Senators Cromer and Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑355 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO UNLAWFUL DEER HUNTING NEAR A RESIDENCE, TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO HUNT DEER WITH FIREARMS NEAR A RESIDENCE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE OWNER AND OCCUPANT.

Senator CAMPSEN asked unanimous consent to take the Bill up for immediate consideration.

There was no objection.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the adoption of the amendment proposed by the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry.

The Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry proposed the following amendment (876R004.GEC), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking lines 24‑31 and inserting:

/ “Section 50‑11‑355. It is unlawful to hunt deer with a firearm within three hundred yards of a residence when less than ten feet above the ground without permission of the owner and occupant. Anyone violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days. The provisions of this section do not apply to a landowner hunting on his own land or a person taking deer pursuant to a department permit.”/

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Senator CAMPSEN explained the committee amendment.

The committee amendment was adopted.

The question then was second reading of the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Campsen

Cleary Coleman Corbin

Courson Cromer Davis

Fair Grooms Hayes

Hembree Hutto Jackson

Kimpson Lourie Malloy

*Martin, Larry* Massey Matthews

McElveen McGill Peeler

Pinckney Rankin Reese

Scott Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

There being no further amendments, the Bill was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 812 -- Senator O’Dell: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 11‑50‑50, AS AMENDED, SECTIONS 11‑50‑60, 11‑50‑90, AND 11‑50‑160, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, ALL RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY, SO AS TO UPDATE THE LIST OF COUNTIES IN WHICH A BOARD MEMBER MAY RESIDE OR REPRESENT, TO REMOVE THE AUTHORITY FROM THE JURISDICTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT, AND TO NO LONGER REQUIRE THE AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JOINT BOND REVIEW COMMITTEE BEFORE PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, BUT TO REQUIRE THE AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE JOINT BOND REVIEW COMMITTEE REGARDING LOANS AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator O’DELL explained the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 38; Nays 2**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campsen Cleary Corbin

Courson Cromer Davis

Fair Grooms Hayes

Hembree Hutto Jackson

Kimpson Leatherman Lourie

Malloy *Martin, Larry* Massey

Matthews McElveen McGill

Nicholson O'Dell Peeler

Pinckney Rankin Reese

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Thurmond Turner Verdin

Williams Young

**Total--38**

**NAYS**

Bright Bryant

**Total--2**

The Bill was read the second time and ordered placed on the Third Reading Calendar.

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 825 -- Senator Alexander: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 3‑1‑40 SO AS TO EXEMPT FROM AD VALOREM TAXATION ANY REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN A MILITARY BASE OR INSTALLATION THAT IS USED OR OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND IS USED AS MILITARY HOUSING FOR MILITARY AFFILIATED PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES EVEN IF THE REAL PROPERTY IS IMPROVED, MAINTAINED, OR LEASED TO A PARTY THAT WOULD OTHERWISE SUBJECT THE REAL PROPERTY TO TAX, SO LONG AS THERE IS A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT REQUIRING THE LESSEE TO USE THE PROPERTY FOR MILITARY HOUSING.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator HAYES explained the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Campsen

Cleary Coleman Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hutto

Jackson Kimpson Leatherman

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey Matthews McElveen

McGill Nicholson O'Dell

Peeler Pinckney Rankin

Reese Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

The Bill was read the second time and ordered placed on the Third Reading Calendar.

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 842 -- Senator Cleary: A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, TITLE 25 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO VETERAN’S UNCLAIMED CREMATED REMAINS, TO PROVIDE THAT A CORONER MAY WORK WITH A VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED CREMATED REMAINS OF A VETERAN PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THIS CHAPTER.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator CLEARY explained the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Campsen

Cleary Coleman Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hutto

Jackson Kimpson Leatherman

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey Matthews McElveen

McGill Nicholson O'Dell

Peeler Pinckney Rankin

Reese Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

The Bill was read the second time and ordered placed on the Third Reading Calendar.

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

H. 3623 -- Reps. Atwater and Toole: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 38‑77‑127 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN AUTOMOBILE INSURER MUST VERIFY THE COVERAGE OF AN INSURED BY ELECTRONIC FORMAT TO A MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICE UPON REQUEST OF THE INSURED, AND TO PROVIDE A NECESSARY DEFINITION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56‑10‑225, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN AN AUTOMOBILE, SO AS TO PERMIT THE USE OF A MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICE TO SATISFY THESE REQUIREMENTS.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator GROOMS explained the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Cleary

Coleman Corbin Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey Matthews McElveen

McGill Nicholson Peeler

Pinckney Rankin Reese

Scott Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

The Bill was read the second time and ordered placed on the Third Reading Calendar.

**AMENDED, READ THE SECOND TIME**

H. 4468 -- Reps. Hardwick, Ryhal and Clemmons: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 7‑7‑320, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS IN HORRY COUNTY, SO AS TO REDESIGNATE VARIOUS EXISTING PRECINCTS, TO ADD TWO PRECINCTS, AND TO REDESIGNATE THE MAP NUMBER ON WHICH THE NAMES OF THESE PRECINCTS MAY BE FOUND AND MAINTAINED BY THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS OF THE STATE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator RANKIN proposed the following amendment (BBM\4468C001.BBM.HTC14), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking Section 7‑7‑320(A) as contained in SECTION 1, beginning on page 1, and inserting:

/ (A) In Horry County there are the following voting precincts:

Adrian

Allsbrook

Atlantic Beach

Aynor

~~Bayboro~~ Bayboro ‑ Gurley

Brooksville

Brownway

Burgess #1

Burgess #2

Burgess #3

Burgess #4

Carolina Forest #1

Carolina Forest #2

Cedar Grove

Cherry Grove #1

Cherry Grove #2

Coastal Carolina

Coastal Lane #1

Coastal Lane #2

Cool Springs

Crescent

Daisy

Deerfield

Dog Bluff

Dogwood

Dunes #1

Dunes #2

Dunes #3

East Conway

East Loris

Ebenezer

Emerald Forest #1

Emerald Forest #2

Emerald Forest #3

Enterprise

Floyds

~~Forest Brook~~ Forestbrook

Four Mile

Galivants Ferry

Garden City #1

Garden City #2

Garden City #3

Garden City #4

Glenns Bay

Green Sea

~~Gurley~~

Hickory Grove

Hickory Hill

Homewood

Horry

Inland

Jackson Bluff

Jamestown

Jernigan’s Cross Roads

Jet Port #1

Jet Port #2

Jordanville

Joyner Swamp

Juniper Bay

Lake Park

Leon

Little River #1

Little River #2

Little River #3

Live Oak

Maple

Marlowe #1

Marlowe #2

Marlowe #3

~~Methodist Rehobeth~~

Methodist ‑ Mill Swamp

~~Mill Swamp~~

Mt. Olive

Mt. Vernon

Myrtle Trace

Myrtlewood #1

Myrtlewood #2

Myrtlewood #3

Nixon’s Cross Roads #1

Nixon’s Cross Roads #2

North Conway #1

North Conway #2

Norton

Ocean Drive #1

Ocean Drive #2

Ocean Forest #1

Ocean Forest #2

Ocean Forest #3

Palmetto Bays

Pawley’s Swamp

Pleasant View

Poplar Hill

Port Harrelson

Race Path #1

Race Path #2

Red Bluff

Red Hill #1

Red Hill #2

Salem

Sea Oats #1

Sea Oats #2

Sea Winds

Shell

Socastee #1

Socastee #2

Socastee #3

Socastee #4

Spring Branch

Surfside #1

Surfside #2

Surfside #3

Surfside #4

Sweet Home

Taylorsville

Tilly Swamp

Toddville

Wampee

West Conway

West Loris

White Oak

Wild Wing

Windy Hill #1

Windy Hill #2 /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

The amendment was adopted.

The question then was second reading of the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Cleary

Coleman Corbin Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey Matthews McElveen

McGill Nicholson Peeler

Pinckney Rankin Reese

Scott Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

There being no further amendments, the Bill was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED**

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

H. 3027 -- Reps. G.M. Smith, Pitts, Ballentine, J.E. Smith, Bernstein, Harrell, Cobb‑Hunter, Whipper and R.L. Brown: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12‑43‑220, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT RATIOS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT, IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS, AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES MAY CLAIM THE FOUR PERCENT ASSESSMENT RATIO REGARDLESS OF THE OWNER’S RELOCATION AND REGARDLESS OF ANY RENTAL INCOME, AND TO PROVIDE THAT AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS, MAY CLAIM THE FOUR PERCENT ASSESSMENT RATIO ON TWO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES SO LONG AS THE OWNER ATTEMPTS TO SELL THE FIRST RESIDENCE WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF ACQUIRING THE SECOND RESIDENCE.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the adoption of the amendment proposed by the Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Finance proposed the following amendment (BH\3027C002.BH.DG14), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking SECTION 2 and inserting:

/ SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor and applies for property tax years beginning after 2013./

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Senator HAYES explained the committee amendment.

The committee amendment was adopted.

The question then was second reading of the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 41; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Cleary

Coleman Corbin Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Leatherman Lourie Malloy

*Martin, Larry* Massey Matthews

McElveen McGill Nicholson

O'Dell Peeler Pinckney

Rankin Reese Scott

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Thurmond Turner Verdin

Williams Young

**Total--41**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

There being no further amendments, the Bill was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

**READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 989 -- Senator Nicholson: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 7‑7‑290, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS IN GREENWOOD COUNTY, SO AS TO REVISE BOUNDARIES OF EXISTING PRECINCTS AND TO DESIGNATE THE MAP NUMBER ON WHICH THE BOUNDARIES OF GREENWOOD COUNTY VOTING PRECINCTS AS REVISED BY THIS ACT MAY BE FOUND AND MAINTAINED BY THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS OF THE STATE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator NICHOLSON explained the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 39; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Cleary

Coleman Corbin Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey Matthews McElveen

McGill Nicholson Peeler

Pinckney Rankin Reese

Scott Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--39**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

The Bill was read the second time and ordered placed on the Third Reading Calendar.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED, OBJECTION**

S. 275 -- Senators L. Martin and Hembree: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 23‑1‑210, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE TEMPORARY TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT OF A MUNICIPAL OR COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO A MULTIJURISDICTIONAL TASK FORCE, SO AS TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CHANGE, DELETE THE PROVISION THAT REQUIRES A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY THAT SENDS AN OFFICER TO ANOTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY TO BE REIMBURSED FOR SERVICES BY THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY TO WHICH THE OFFICER IS TRANSFERRED OR ASSIGNED, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AFFECTED BY THIS PROVISION MUST BE NOTIFIED BY THEIR LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISIONS OF ANY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL TASK FORCE AGREEMENT EXECUTION AND TERMINATION.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the adoption of the amendment proposed by the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee on Judiciary proposed the following amendment (JUD0275.001), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, page 1-2, by striking SECTION 1 in its entirety and inserting:

/ SECTION 1. Section 23‑1‑210 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 23‑1‑210. (A) Any municipal or county law enforcement officer may be transferred or assigned on a temporary basis to work in law enforcement within multijurisdictional task forces established for the mutual aid and benefit of the participating jurisdictions, or in any other municipality or county in this State under the conditions set forth in this section, and when so transferred or assigned shall have all powers and authority of a law enforcement officer employed by the jurisdiction to which he is transferred or assigned.

(B) Prior to any transfer or assignment as authorized in subsection (A), the concerned municipalities, ~~or~~ counties, or agencies, as appropriate, shall enter into written agreements stating the conditions and terms of the temporary employment of officers to be transferred or assigned. A municipality or county is not required to enter into or approve a written agreement by ordinance and may agree to enter into or approve a written agreement by resolution. The bond for any officer transferred or assigned shall include coverage for his activity in the municipality or county to which he is transferred or assigned in the same manner and to the same extent provided by bonds of regularly employed officers of that municipality or county.

(C) Agreements made pursuant to subsection (B) shall provide that temporary transfers or assignments shall in no manner affect or reduce the compensation, pension, or retirement rights of transferred or assigned officers and such officers shall continue to be paid by the county or municipality where they are permanently employed~~, with the sending county or municipality being reimbursed for their services by the county or municipality to which they are transferred or assigned~~.

(D) The respective governing bodies of the political subdivisions, where each of the law enforcement agencies entering into the agreement authorized in subsection (A) are located, must be notified by its agency of the agreement’s execution and termination. The notification must be in writing and accomplished within seventy‑two hours of the agreement’s execution and within seventy‑two hours of the agreement’s termination.” /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

The committee amendment was adopted.

Senator SCOTT proposed the following amendment (BH\275C001.BH.DG14), which was ruled out of order:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by adding an appropriately numbered SECTION to read:

/ SECTION \_\_\_. Section 8-1-130 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-1-130. Any member, including fire marshal, of a lawfully and regularly organized fire department, county veterans affairs officer, constable, or municipal judge serving as attorney for another city is not considered to be a dual officeholder, by virtue of serving in that capacity, for the purposes of the Constitution of this State.” /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Senator SCOTT explained the amendment.

**Point of Order**

Senator MASSEY raised a Point of Order under Rule 24A that the amendment was out of order inasmuch as it was not germane to the Bill.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

The amendment was ruled out of order.

The question then was second reading of the Bill.

Senator MATTHEWS objected to further consideration of the Bill.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT AMENDED, CARRIED OVER**

S. 840 -- Senator Bryant: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44‑53‑1640, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY DISPENSERS AS PART OF THE STATE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM, SO AS TO REVISE THE MANNER OF SUBMISSION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 44‑53‑1650, RELATING TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND RELEASE OF DATA FROM THE STATE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM, SO AS TO REQUIRE A COURT ORDER FOR THE RELEASE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PURPOSES, AND TO REQUIRE A COURT ORDER TO RELEASE INFORMATION TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHEN THE REQUEST IS FOR SYSTEM DATA MAINTAINED FOR LONGER THAN ONE YEAR.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the adoption of the committee amendment.

Senator CROMER proposed the following amendment (840R001.RWC), which was adopted:

Amend the committee amendment, as and if amended, page [840‑3], by striking lines 26‑29 and inserting:

/ (D) A pharmacist or practitioner, licensed in Title 40, who knowingly discloses prescription monitoring information in a manner or for a purpose in violation of this article shall be reported to his respective board for disciplinary action./

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Senator CROMER explained the committee amendment.

The committee amendment was adopted.

On motion of Senator PEELER, the Bill was carried over.

**CARRIED OVER**

H. 3459 -- Reps. Sandifer, Bales, J.E. Smith and Erickson: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 40‑2‑10, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION SHALL DESIGNATE CERTAIN PERSONNEL FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE BOARD, TO PROHIBIT THE DEPARTMENT FROM ASSIGNING OTHER WORK TO THESE PERSONNEL WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE BOARD, AND TO PROVIDE THESE PERSONNEL MAY BE TERMINATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD; TO AMEND SECTION 40‑2‑30, RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF ACCOUNTANCY, SO AS TO PROVIDE A CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT LICENSED BY THE BOARD IS EXEMPT FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS OF PRIVATE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION AGENCIES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40‑2‑70, RELATING TO POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE BOARD MAY CONDUCT PERIODIC INSPECTIONS OF LICENSEES OR FIRMS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40‑2‑80, RELATING TO INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DIRECT THE INVESTIGATOR ASSIGNED TO THE BOARD TO INVESTIGATE AN ALLEGED VIOLATION TO DETERMINE THE EXISTENCE OF PROBABLE CAUSE MERITING FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

On motion of Senator MALLOY, the Bill was carried over.

S. 815 -- Senators L. Martin and Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 7‑11‑30, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, TO PROVIDE THAT A PARTY MAY CHOOSE TO CHANGE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES BY PRIMARY TO A CONVENTION IF THREE‑FOURTHS OF THE CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP APPROVES OF THE CONVENTION NOMINATION PROCESS, AND A MAJORITY OF THE VOTERS IN THAT PARTY’S NEXT PRIMARY ELECTION APPROVES THE USE OF A CONVENTION.

On motion of Senator THURMOND, the Bill was carried over.

S. 605 -- Senators Lourie, Sheheen, Jackson, Coleman, Johnson, Allen, McElveen, Bryant, Bright, Davis, Shealy and Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8‑13‑791 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE USE OF ANY AIRCRAFT OWNED OR LEASED BY THIS STATE, OR ANY STATE AGENCY, ENTITY, OR INSTITUTION, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, BY A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MUST BE FIRST APPROVED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN REGARD TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE, BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE IN REGARD TO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, OR BY THE CHAIRMAN OF A STATE BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IN REGARD TO A MEMBER OF THAT BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE WHO IS PERMITTED TO REQUEST USE OF STATE AIRCRAFT, TO PROVIDE THAT NO AIRCRAFT OWNED OR LEASED BY THIS STATE, OR ANY STATE AGENCY, ENTITY, OR INSTITUTION, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, MAY TRANSPORT A PERSON FROM A LOCATION IN OR OUT OF THIS STATE TO COLUMBIA OR ANOTHER LOCATION TO TESTIFY BEFORE A STANDING OR SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ABOUT ANY MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THAT COMMITTEE, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING A REQUIREMENT THAT THE COST OF THE FLIGHT MUST BE REIMBURSED TO THE STATE GENERAL FUND.

Senator JACKSON explained the Bill.

On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Bill was carried over.

H. 3853 -- Reps. Owens, Patrick, Bedingfield, Loftis, Taylor, Allison, Anthony, Brannon, Southard, Bowen, Whitmire, Limehouse, Cole, Erickson, Forrester, Harrell, Herbkersman, Hixon, Lucas, D.C. Moss, Norman, Pitts, Pope, Putnam, Simrill, G.R. Smith, Sottile, Stringer, Wells and Willis: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑40‑111 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS (AEC) TO BE ESTABLISHED BY A CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR WHICH SHALL CONSTITUTE A CHARTER SCHOOL SERVING A SPECIFIC STUDENT POPULATION, AND TO PROVIDE THE CRITERIA FOR A CHARTER SCHOOL TO BE DESIGNATED AS AN AEC; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑55, RELATING TO A CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR’S POWERS AND DUTIES, SO AS TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THESE POWERS AND DUTIES INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF NATIONAL INDUSTRY STANDARDS FOR THE SCHOOL, AND THE CLOSURE OF LOW PERFORMING SCHOOLS; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑60, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS AND THE FORMATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION MUST BE BASED ON AN APPLICATION TEMPLATE WITH COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE APPLICATION AND FOR LETTERS OF INTENT TO BE SUBMITTED BY AN APPLICANT AND A CHARTER COMMITTEE; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑70, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ITS DUTY TO REVIEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS, SO AS TO DELETE THE COMMITTEE, TO REVISE THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED OF A CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICANT IN REGARD TO A CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON COMPLIANCE TO BOTH SPONSORS AND APPLICANTS, AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE STANDARDS FOR A SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR AREA COMMISSION TO FOLLOW WHEN CONSIDERING THE DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑90, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO APPEAL OF FINAL DECISIONS OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO THE ADMINISTRATION LAW COURT, SO AS TO ALSO INCLUDE FINAL DECISIONS OF A PUBLIC OR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING SPONSOR; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑110, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE DURATION OF A CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR AND THE RENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF A CHARTER BY THE SPONSOR, SO AS TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN A CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL AUTOMATICALLY AND PERMANENTLY CLOSE, TO REVISE THE CRITERIA TO CONSIDER WHEN REVOKING OR NOT RENEWING A CHARTER, TO PROVIDE FOR WHEN A SPONSOR SUMMARILY MAY REVOKE A CHARTER, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH STAYS OF THE REVOCATION OR NONRENEWAL OF THE CHARTER TAKE EFFECT OR MAY BE GRANTED; TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑115, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE TERMINATION OF A CHARTER SCHOOL’S CONTRACT WITH A SPONSOR, SO AS TO DELETE A REFERENCE TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND TO AMEND SECTION 59‑40‑180, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS, SO AS TO DELETE A REFERENCE TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

On motion of Senator MALLOY, the Bill was carried over.

S. 828 -- Senators Fair and Turner: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 11‑41‑75 SO AS TO EXEMPT CERTAIN BOND REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS IF A CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW CENTER IS SOLD AND IS TO BE REPLACED WITH A NEW CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW CENTER, AND TO SET FORTH EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 11‑41‑70, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BONDS, SO AS TO MAKE A CONFORMING CHANGE.

On motion of Senator BRIGHT, the Bill was carried over.

S. 940 -- Senators Young, Massey, Setzler and Peeler: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 4‑10‑470, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE EDUCATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SALES AND USE TAX, SO AS TO ALLOW A COUNTY THAT DOES NOT COLLECT A CERTAIN AMOUNT IN ACCOMMODATIONS TAX TO IMPOSE THE SALES TAX SO LONG AS NO PORTION OF THE COUNTY AREA IS SUBJECT TO MORE THAN TWO PERCENT TOTAL SALES TAX.

On motion of Senator YOUNG, the Bill was carried over.

S. 748 -- Senator Cleary: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44 SO AS TO BE ENTITLED “IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR PROVIDING FREE HEALTH CARE SERVICES”, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE SERVICES OF A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TREATING A PATIENT FREE OF CHARGE ARE DEEMED TO BE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN STATUTE; TO REENTITLE CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44 AS “HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS”; AND TO DESIGNATE SECTIONS 44‑30‑10 THROUGH 44‑30‑90 AS ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 30, TITLE 44, ENTITLED “HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL COMPLIANCE ACT”.

On motion of Senator MALLOY, the Bill was carried over.

H. 3978 -- Reps. White and G.M. Smith: A BILL TO AMEND ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 7, TITLE 44, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO MEDICAID NURSING HOME PERMITS, TO DEFINE “MEDICAID PERMIT DAY”, TO SPECIFY THE MANNER IN WHICH ADDITIONAL MEDICAID PERMIT DAYS ARE ALLOCATED, TO SET FORTH COMPLIANCE STANDARDS AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND TO PROVIDE CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

On motion of Senator PEELER, the Bill was carried over.

S. 560 -- Senator L. Martin: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 58‑15‑870, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE WILFULL AND MALICIOUS INJURY TO A RAILROAD OR ELECTRIC RAILWAY, SO AS TO PROVIDE A TIER OF PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; AND TO AMEND ARTICLE 9, CHAPTER 15, TITLE 58, RELATING TO RAILROADS, ELECTRIC RAILROADS, AND THE LIKE, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO PURCHASE, SELL, OR TRANSPORT RAILROAD TRACK MATERIALS, TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS, AND TO PROVIDE A TIER OF PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

On motion of Senator THURMOND, the Bill was carried over.

S. 661 -- Senators S. Martin, Bryant, Bright and Grooms: A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 44 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO HEALTH, TO ENACT THE “AGENDA 21 PROTECTION ACT” BY ADDING CHAPTER 137 TO PROHIBIT THIS STATE AND ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS FROM ADOPTING AND DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL POLICIES THAT, WITHOUT DUE PROCESS, WOULD INFRINGE OR RESTRICT THE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS OF THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

On motion of Senator LOURIE, the Bill was carried over.

S. 912 -- Senator Peeler: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 6‑1‑730, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE USE OF HOSPITALITY TAX REVENUE, SO AS TO ALLOW REVENUE TO BE SPENT ON ROADS AND BRIDGES PROVIDING ACCESS TO DESTINATIONS CONTRIBUTING TO TOURIST ACTIVITIES.

Senator O’DELL explained the Bill.

On motion of Senator GROOMS, the Bill was carried over.

H. 3089 -- Reps. Pope, Tallon, Hixon, Wells, McCoy and Daning: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12‑6‑1140, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEDUCTIONS ALLOWED FROM SOUTH CAROLINA TAXABLE INCOME OF AN INDIVIDUAL FOR PURPOSES OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA INCOME TAX ACT, SO AS TO ALLOW A MAXIMUM THREE THOUSAND DOLLAR A YEAR DEDUCTION FOR VOLUNTEER STATE CONSTABLES DESIGNATED BY THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION AS STATE CONSTABLES AND TO PROVIDE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS DEDUCTION.

On motion of Senator THURMOND, the Bill was carried over.

H. 3367 -- Reps. J.E. Smith and Mitchell: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 33‑56‑20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SOLICITATION OF CHARITABLE FUNDS ACT, SO AS TO REVISE SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 33‑56‑60, RELATING TO CERTAIN FILING REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR WHICH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO FILE AND THE APPLICABLE FILING REQUIREMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 33‑56‑70, RELATING TO CONTRACTS WITH PROFESSIONAL SOLICITORS REQUIRED TO BE FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL FILING INFORMATION AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE WHEN A PROFESSIONAL SOLICITOR, COMMERCIAL CO‑VENTURER, OR PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISING COUNSEL MAY BEGIN PROVIDING OR CONTINUE PROVIDING SOLICITATIONS AND SERVICES IN THIS STATE; TO AMEND SECTION 33‑56‑110, RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN PERSONS, SO AS TO REVISE THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECTION IN REGARD TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF AND PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION, INCLUDING THE SANCTIONS OR PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE OR VIOLATION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 33‑56‑120, RELATING TO PROHIBITED MISREPRESENTATIONS, SO AS TO CLARIFY A REFERENCE.

On motion of Senator THURMOND, the Bill was carried over.

H. 3563 -- Reps. Delleney, J.E. Smith and Lucas: A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 20, TITLE 39, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO SELF‑SERVICE STORAGE FACILITIES, SO AS TO DEFINE “ELECTRONIC MAIL”, TO PROVIDE THAT WHEN RENT OR OTHER CHARGES ARE FIVE OR MORE DAYS PAST DUE THE OWNER MAY DENY THE OCCUPANT ACCESS TO THE PERSONAL PROPERTY AND THE OCCUPANT IS CONSIDERED IN DEFAULT, TO PROVIDE THAT WHEN RENT OR OTHER CHARGES ARE FOURTEEN OR MORE DAYS PAST DUE THE OCCUPANT MUST BE NOTIFIED, AND TO PROVIDE THE PROCESS BY WHICH A DEFAULTING OCCUPANT’S PERSONAL PROPERTY MAY BE DESTROYED OR SOLD.

On motion of Senator THURMOND, the Bill was carried over.

**ADOPTED**

S. 681 -- Senator Hembree: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 701 FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CONWAY TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 22 “W. D. ‘BILLY’ WITHERSPOON HIGHWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS HIGHWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “W. D. ‘BILLY’ WITHERSPOON HIGHWAY”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 682 -- Senator Hembree: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE INTERSECTION LOCATED AT THE JUNCTURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAYS 9 AND 57 IN HORRY COUNTY “STALVEY BELLAMY INTERSECTION” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS INTERSECTION THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “STALVEY BELLAMY INTERSECTION”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 757 -- Senators Hembree, Reese, Shealy, Williams, Malloy, Campbell, Grooms, Verdin, Hayes, Bennett, Gregory, Nicholson, Campsen, Ford, Allen, McGill, Coleman, McElveen, Alexander, Pinckney, Turner, Hutto, Young, Cleary, Sheheen, Massey, Corbin, Rankin, Thurmond and Johnson: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE WIND ENERGY CAPABILITIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA AS PART OF A MULTI-SOURCE ENERGY STRATEGY AND HONOR THE PARTNERSHIP OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE PURSUIT OF A CLEAN ENERGY SOURCE COMPONENT TO THIS OVERALL STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 934 -- Senators Scott, Alexander, Allen, Bennett, Bright, Bryant, Campbell, Campsen, Cleary, Coleman, Corbin, Courson, Cromer, Davis, Fair, Gregory, Grooms, Hayes, Hembree, Hutto, Jackson, Johnson, Kimpson, Leatherman, Lourie, Malloy, L. Martin, S. Martin, Massey, Matthews, McElveen, McGill, Nicholson, O’Dell, Peeler, Pinckney, Rankin, Reese, Setzler, Shealy, Sheheen, Thurmond, Turner, Verdin, Williams and Young: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 277 AND PARKLANE ROAD IN RICHLAND COUNTY “BERNICE SKINNER INTERCHANGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “BERNICE SKINNER INTERCHANGE”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 966 -- Senator Williams: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME A PORTION OF BLUFF ROAD FROM THE INTERSECTION OF BLUFF ROAD AND LIBERTY STREET TO THE INTERSECTION OF BLUFF ROAD AND PENDERBORO ROAD IN MARION COUNTY THE “CHIEF WILLIE LEE SMITH HIGHWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “CHIEF WILLIE LEE SMITH HIGHWAY”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 1003 -- Senator Lourie: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ERECT APPROPRIATE SIGNS AT EXIT 27 ALONG INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 77 IN RICHLAND COUNTY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “BLYTHEWOOD HOME OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA EQUESTRIAN TEAM”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

S. 1018 -- Senators Hutto, Alexander, Allen, Bennett, Bright, Bryant, Campbell, Campsen, Cleary, Coleman, Corbin, Courson, Cromer, Davis, Fair, Gregory, Grooms, Hayes, Hembree, Jackson, Johnson, Kimpson, Leatherman, Lourie, Malloy, L. Martin, S. Martin, Massey, Matthews, McElveen, McGill, Nicholson, O’Dell, Peeler, Pinckney, Rankin, Reese, Scott, Setzler, Shealy, Sheheen, Thurmond, Turner, Verdin, Williams and Young: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PORTION OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 26 IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY BETWEEN EXIT 145 AND 154 “KAREN J. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS ALONG THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “KAREN J. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, FIRST FEMALE JUDGE AND CHIEF JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES 4TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

H. 3781 -- Reps. Herbkersman, Newton and Patrick: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE DEPARTMENT’S REPLACEMENT BRIDGE LOCATED ALONG SPANISH WELLS ROAD ON HILTON HEAD ISLAND “CHARLIE SIMMONS, SR. MEMORIAL BRIDGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS BRIDGE THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “CHARLIE SIMMONS, SR. MEMORIAL BRIDGE”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered returned to the House.

H. 4447 -- Rep. Taylor: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE INTERCHANGE LOCATED AT EXIT 22 ALONG INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 20 IN AIKEN COUNTY “DEPUTY SHERIFF JASON L. SHEPPARD INTERCHANGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS INTERCHANGE THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS “DEPUTY SHERIFF JASON L. SHEPPARD INTERCHANGE”.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted, ordered returned to the House.

**RECESS**

At 12:06 P.M., on motion of Senator COURSON, the Senate receded from business.

**Recorded Vote**

Senator BRIGHT desired to be recorded as voting against the motion to recede.

At 1:46 P.M., the Senate resumed.

**ACTING PRESIDENT PRESIDES**

Senator LARRY MARTIN assumed the Chair.

**Call of the Senate**

Senator MALLOY moved that a Call of the Senate be made. The following Senators answered the Call:

Alexander Allen Bennett

Bright Bryant Campsen

Cleary Coleman Corbin

Courson Cromer Davis

Fair Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Johnson

Kimpson Leatherman Malloy

*Martin, Larry* Massey McElveen

McGill Nicholson O'Dell

Peeler Pinckney Rankin

Reese Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Thurmond Turner

Verdin Williams Young

A quorum being present, the Senate resumed.

**THE CALL OF THE UNCONTESTED CALENDAR HAVING BEEN COMPLETED, THE SENATE PROCEEDED TO THE MOTION PERIOD.**

**MOTION ADOPTED**

On motion of Senator PEELER, the Senate agreed to dispense with the balance of the Motion Period.

**HAVING DISPENSED WITH THE MOTION PERIOD, THE SENATE PROCEEDED TO A CONSIDERATION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS RETURNED FROM THE HOUSE.**

**CONCURRENCE**

H. 3847 -- Reps. Hiott and Hardwick: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR TERMS USED IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MANUFACTURER RESPONSIBILITY AND CONSUMER CONVENIENCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT COLLECTION AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2010, SO AS TO ADD, AMONG OTHER DEFINITIONS, TERMS RELATED TO COMPUTER MONITORS; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑30, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS OF CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS TO PROVIDE LABELS ON DEVICES INDICATING THE BRAND, SO AS TO REQUIRE COMPUTER MONITOR MANUFACTURERS TO DO SO; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑50, RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR TELEVISION MANUFACTURERS TO PROVIDE A RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR RECYCLING TELEVISIONS, SO AS TO REQUIRE COMPUTER MONITOR MANUFACTURERS TO DO SO; BY ADDING SECTION 48‑60‑55 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF STATEWIDE CONSUMER ELECTRONIC DEVICE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS AND THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RELATED RECOVERY PLANS, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF PLANS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, AND TO ESTABLISH OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT AND REQUIREMENTS OF REGULATED MANUFACTURERS; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑60, RELATING TO PROTECTION FROM LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN DAMAGES, SO AS TO APPLY TO COMPUTER MONITOR MANUFACTURERS; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑70, RELATING TO RETAILER SALE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO PROHIBIT RETAILERS FROM SELLING DEVICES MADE BY MANUFACTURERS WHO DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 48‑60‑55; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑90, RELATING TO DISCARDING OR PLACING COVERED DEVICES IN A WASTE STREAM, TO PROHIBIT COMPONENTS OF COVERED DEVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑100, RELATING TO RECOVERY PROCESS FEES, SO AS TO LIMIT THE ABILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO CHARGE CERTAIN FEES; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑140, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS THAT RECOVERY PROCESSES COMPLY WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW, SO AS TO REQUIRE RECYCLING OR REUSE FACILITIES TO MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION, TO IDENTIFY APPROVED CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS, AND TO REQUIRE MANUFACTURERS AND GOVERNMENTS ONLY TO USE FACILITIES THAT HAVE APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATION; TO AMEND SECTION 48‑60‑150, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT’S PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS, SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE RIGHT TO CHARGE CERTAIN FEES TO MANUFACTURERS; BY ADDING SECTION 48‑60‑160 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FEES AND PENALTIES; BY ADDING SECTION 48‑60‑170 SO AS TO SET FORTH THE PURPOSES OF THE CHAPTER AND CERTAIN LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY; TO PROVIDE EXPIRATION DATES FOR REGULATIONS PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER, AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 48-60-50 JUNE 30, 2014, AND CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS JUNE 30, 2020.

The House returned the Bill with amendments, the question being concurrence in the House amendments.

Senator VERDIN explained the amendments.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 35; Nays 3**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campsen Cleary Coleman

Courson Cromer Davis

Fair Grooms Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Lourie Malloy *Martin, Larry*

Massey McElveen McGill

Nicholson O'Dell Peeler

Pinckney Reese Scott

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Thurmond Turner Verdin

Williams Young

**Total--35**

**NAYS**

Bright Bryant Corbin

**Total--3**

The Senate concurred in the House amendments and a message was sent to the House accordingly. Ordered that the title be changed to that of an Act and the Act enrolled for Ratification.

**PRESIDENT *PRO TEMPORE* PRESIDES**

At 2:45 P.M., Senator COURSON assumed the Chair.

**Motion Adopted**

On motion of Senator PEELER, with unanimous consent, Senators PEELER, ALEXANDER, HAYES and McGILL were granted leave to attend a committee meeting and were granted leave to vote from the balcony*.*

**THE SENATE PROCEEDED TO THE INTERRUPTED DEBATE.**

**AMENDED, READ THE SECOND TIME**

H. 3945 -- Reps. G.M. Smith, Harrell, Lucas, Bannister, Toole, Stringer, Hamilton, Sottile, Barfield, Bingham, Spires, Hardwick, Owens, Hiott, Long, Erickson, Murphy, Horne, Willis, Gagnon, Simrill, Funderburk and Henderson: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 4 TO CHAPTER 13, TITLE 8 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON ETHICS ENFORCEMENT AND DISCLOSURE, TO PROVIDE FOR ITS POWERS, DUTIES, PROCEDURES, AND JURISDICTION, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS; TO REPEAL ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 13, TITLE 8 RELATING TO THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION; TO REPEAL ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 13, TITLE 8 RELATING TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEES; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑100, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS IN REGARD TO ETHICS, GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, AND CAMPAIGN REFORM, SO AS TO REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑700, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO USE OF AN OFFICIAL POSITION OR OFFICE FOR FINANCIAL GAIN, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IF A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DETERMINES THAT HE HAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, HE MUST COMPLY WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS BEFORE ABSTAINING FROM ALL VOTES ON THE MATTER, AND TO PROVIDE FOR WHEN A PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO IS REQUIRED TO RECUSE HIMSELF FROM A MATTER MUST DO SO; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑740, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO REPRESENTATION OF ANOTHER PERSON BY A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BEFORE A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, SO AS TO FURTHER DELINEATE WHAT IS CONSIDERED A CONTESTED CASE WHEN REPRESENTATION BY A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS PERMITTED; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑745, RELATING TO PAID REPRESENTATION OF CLIENTS AND CONTRACTING BY A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR AN ASSOCIATE IN PARTICULAR SITUATIONS, SO AS TO DELETE A PROHIBITION AGAINST CERTAIN CONTRACTS WITH AN ENTITY FUNDED WITH GENERAL FUNDS; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1120, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO CONTENTS OF STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTEREST, SO AS TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THESE CONTENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1300, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS IN REGARD TO CAMPAIGN PRACTICES, SO AS TO REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1318, RELATING TO ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO RETIRE CAMPAIGN DEBTS, SO AS TO REQUIRE ANY SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE ONLY; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1338, RELATING TO PERSONS WHO MAY NOT SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE HEAD OF ANY STATE AGENCY WHO IS SELECTED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OR AN APPOINTED OR ELECTED BOARD; TO AMEND SECTION 8‑13‑1340, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS BY ONE CANDIDATE TO ANOTHER OR THROUGH COMMITTEES CONTROLLED BY A CANDIDATE, SO AS TO DELETE AN EXCEPTION FOR A COMMITTEE CONTROLLED BY A CANDIDATE IF IT IS THE ONLY SUCH COMMITTEE, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; TO AMEND SECTIONS 8‑13‑1510 AND 8‑13‑1520, BOTH AS AMENDED, RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR ETHICAL AND OTHER VIOLATIONS, AND BY ADDING SECTION 8‑13‑1530 SO AS TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND FOR WHERE CERTAIN WILFUL VIOLATIONS MUST BE TRIED; AND TO REPEAL SECTIONS 8‑13‑710 AND 8‑13‑715 RELATING TO REPORTING OF PARTICULAR GIFTS AND AUTHORIZED REIMBURSEMENTS FOR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill, the question being the second reading of the Bill.

Senator LARRY MARTIN explained the Bill.

**Motion Failed**

Senator HAYES moved that the Senate stand in recess for 30 minutes.

Senator LOURIE moved that the Senate stand adjourned.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 14; Nays 27**

**AYES**

Allen Coleman Hutto

Jackson Kimpson Lourie

Matthews McGill Nicholson

Pinckney Reese Scott

Setzler Williams

**Total--14**

**NAYS**

Alexander Bennett Bright

Bryant Campsen Cleary

Corbin Courson Cromer

Fair Grooms Hayes

Hembree Leatherman Malloy

*Martin, Larry* Massey McElveen

O'Dell Peeler Rankin

Shealy Sheheen Thurmond

Turner Verdin Young

**Total--27**

Having failed to receive the necessary votes, the Senate refused to adjourn.

**Expression of Personal Interest**

Senator LOURIE rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

**Motion Adopted**

Senator HAYES moved that the Senate stand in recess for 30 minutes.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 26; Nays 14**

**AYES**

Alexander Bennett Campsen

Cleary Corbin Courson

Cromer Fair Grooms

Hayes Hembree Leatherman

*Martin, Larry* Massey Matthews

McGill Nicholson O'Dell

Peeler Rankin Reese

Shealy Thurmond Turner

Verdin Young

**Total--26**

**NAYS**

Allen Bright Bryant

Coleman Jackson Kimpson

Lourie Malloy McElveen

Pinckney Scott Setzler

Sheheen Williams

**Total--14**

The Senate agreed to stand in recess for 30 minutes.

At 4:44 P.M., the Senate resumed consideration of H. 3945.

**Motion Adopted**

Senator LARRY MARTIN asked unanimous consent to make a motion to take up and adopt Amendment No. 62A, to carry over all other amendments to third reading, to waive the provisions of Rule 26B regarding amendments on third reading, and to proceed to a roll call vote on second reading of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

**Amendment No. 62A**

Senators HAYES, HUTTO, LARRY MARTIN and RANKIN proposed the following amendment (JUD3945.111), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting language and inserting:

/ PART I

LOBBYISTS AND LOBBYIST PRINCIPALS

SECTION 1. Section 2‑17‑20(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) ~~Any~~ A person who acts as a lobbyist ~~must~~, within fifteen days of being employed, appointed, or retained as a lobbyist, shall register with the State Ethics Commission as provided in this section. Each person registering ~~must~~ shall pay a fee of ~~one~~ two hundred dollars and present to the State Ethics Commission a communication reflecting the authority of the registrant to represent the person by whom he is employed, appointed, or retained. If a partnership, committee, association, corporation, labor organization, or any other organization or group of persons registers as a lobbyist, it ~~must~~ shall identify each person who will act as a lobbyist on its behalf during the covered period. There is no registration fee for a lobbyist who is a full‑time employee of a state agency and limits his lobbying to efforts on behalf of that particular state agency.”

SECTION 2. Section 2‑17‑25(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) ~~Any~~ A lobbyist’s principal ~~must~~, within fifteen days of employing, appointing, or retaining a lobbyist, shall register with the State Ethics Commission as provided in this section. Each person registering ~~must~~ shall pay a fee of ~~one~~ two hundred dollars. If a partnership, committee, an association, a corporation, labor organization, or any other organization or group of persons registers as a lobbyist’s principal, it ~~must~~ shall identify each person who will act as a lobbyist on its behalf during the covered period. If the State is a lobbyist’s principal, the State is exempt from paying a registration fee and filing a lobbyist’s principal registration statement.”

SECTION 3. Section 2‑17‑30(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) Each lobbyist, no later than ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth and ~~January thirty‑first~~ January tenth of each year, must file a report with the State Ethics Commission covering that lobbyist’s lobbying during that filing period. The filing periods are from January first to ~~May thirty‑first~~  June thirtieth for the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report, and are from ~~June~~ July first to December thirty‑first for the January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth report. Any lobbying activity not reflected on the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report and not reported on a statement of termination pursuant to Section 2‑17‑20(C) must be reported no later than January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth of the succeeding year. Each report must be in a form prescribed by the State Ethics Commission and be limited to and contain:

(1) the full name, address, and telephone number of the reporting lobbyist;

(2) an identification of each person on whose behalf the reporting lobbyist engaged in lobbying during the covered period;

(3) the official name, number, or description, designated by the House or Senate or by an agency, of legislation, covered agency actions, or covered gubernatorial actions for which the reporting lobbyist engaged in lobbying during the covered period;

(4) the identification of each person from whom income attributable to the lobbyist’s lobbying is paid or promised and the amount of the income attributable to the lobbyist’s lobbying paid or promised;

(5)(a) a complete and itemized account of the totals of all amounts expended by a lobbyist in the performance of his lobbying during the covered period. The totals must be segregated by the amounts expended for office expenses, rent, utilities, supplies, and compensation of support personnel attributable to lobbying covered under the provisions of this chapter;

(b) any expenditure directly or indirectly related to lobbying if expended while engaged in the general course of lobbying and if reimbursed by the lobbyist’s principal;

(6) the name of each member of the judiciary on whose behalf a lobbyist initiated or made expenditures and a complete and itemized account of the amount expended by the lobbyist for each member of the judiciary;

(7) a statement detailing any direct business association of a lobbyist with any current member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees. For the purposes of this item, direct business association does not include:

(a) ownership interests held by a lobbyist or a lobbyist’s principal and a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in the same corporation or partnership unless the interest of each exceeds five percent of the total shares outstanding or partnership interests in such entity;

(b) an interest held by a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in a partnership or corporation represented by a lobbyist or a lobbyist’s principal if the interest is less than five percent of the total shares outstanding or partnership interests in such entity; or

(c) any commercial transaction between a lobbyist or a lobbyist’s principal and a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in which the fair market value of the goods transferred or services rendered is paid.”

SECTION 4. Section 2‑17‑35(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) Except as otherwise provided by Section 2‑17‑90(E), each lobbyist’s principal, no later than ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth and ~~January thirty‑first~~ January tenth of each year, must file a report with the State Ethics Commission covering that lobbyist’s principal’s expenditures attributable to lobbying during that filing period. The filing periods are from January first to ~~May thirty‑first~~ June thirtieth for the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report, and are from ~~June~~ July first to December thirty‑first for the January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth report. Any lobbying activity not reflected on the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report and not reported on a statement of termination pursuant to Section 2‑17‑25(C) must be reported no later than January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth of the succeeding year. Each report must be in a form prescribed by the State Ethics Commission and be limited to and contain:

(1) the full name, address, and telephone number of the reporting lobbyist’s principal;

(2) an identification of each person who acted as a lobbyist on behalf of the reporting lobbyist’s principal during the covered period;

(3) the official name, number, or description, designated by the House or Senate or by an agency, of legislation, covered agency actions, or covered gubernatorial actions for which its lobbyist engaged in lobbying during the covered period;

(4) the identification of each person to whom income attributable to the lobbyist’s lobbying is paid or promised and the amount of the income attributable to the lobbyist’s lobbying paid or promised;

(5)(a) a complete and itemized account of all amounts expended by a lobbyist’s principal for lobbying during the covered period. The totals must be segregated by the amounts expended for office expenses, rent, utilities, supplies, and compensation of support personnel attributable to lobbying covered under the provisions of this chapter;

(b) any expenditure directly or indirectly related to lobbying if expended while a lobbyist’s principal or his lobbyist is engaged in the general course of lobbying;

(c) the name of each public official on whose behalf a lobbyist’s principal initiated or made expenditures pursuant to Section 2‑17‑90 and a complete and itemized account of the amount expended by the lobbyist’s principal for each public official;

(d) any reimbursements of or expenditures for actual expenses as allowed in Section 2‑17‑100;

(6) the name of each member of the judiciary on whose behalf a lobbyist’s principal initiated or made expenditures and a complete and itemized account of the amount expended by the lobbyist’s principal for each member of the judiciary;

(7) a statement detailing any direct business association of a lobbyist’s principal with any current member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees. For the purposes of this item, direct business association does not include:

(a) ownership interests held by a lobbyist or a lobbyist’s principal and a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in the same corporation or partnership unless the interest of each exceeds five percent of the total shares outstanding or partnership interests in the entity;

(b) an interest held by a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in a partnership or corporation represented by a lobbyist or a lobbyist’s principal if the interest is less than five percent of the total shares outstanding or partnership interests in such entity; or

(c) any commercial transaction between a lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal and a member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, any other statewide constitutional officer, any public official of any state agency who engaged in covered agency actions, or any of their employees in which the fair market value of the goods transferred or services rendered is paid;

(8) any contribution, as defined by Section 8‑13‑1300(7), made by the lobbyist’s principal to any candidate or public official, including an itemization of:

(a) the name and address of the public official or candidate to whom the contribution was made;

(b) the amount of the contribution;

(c) the date of the contribution;

(9) in the case of a voluntary membership organization, dues, fees, or other amounts payable to the organization during any calendar year from a member need be recorded only if the contribution to the organization is more than five hundred dollars and more than twenty percent of the total contributions of the organization during that calendar year.”

SECTION 5. Section 2-17‑40 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) Each state agency or department must, no later than ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth and ~~January thirty‑first~~ January tenth of each year, file a report with the State Ethics Commission covering that agency's lobbying during that filing period. The filing periods are from January first to ~~May thirty‑first~~ June thirtieth for the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report, and are from ~~June~~ July first to December thirty‑first for the January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth report. Any lobbying activity not reflected on the ~~June thirtieth~~ July tenth report and not reported on a statement of termination pursuant to Section 2‑17‑25(C) must be reported no later than January ~~thirty‑first~~ tenth of the succeeding year. Each report must be in a form prescribed by the State Ethics Commission and be limited to and contain:

(1) an identification of each public official, public employee, or other person who engaged in lobbying for that agency during the covered period;

(2) legislation, covered agency actions, or covered gubernatorial actions the persons identified in item (1) engaged in lobbying during the covered period;

(3) the identification of each person to whom income attributable to the lobbyist's lobbying is paid or promised and the amount of the income attributable to the lobbyist's lobbying paid or promised;

(4)(a) a complete and itemized account of all expenditures made or incurred by those persons identified in item (1) in the performance of their lobbying during the covered period. The totals must be segregated by the amounts expended for office expenses, rent, utilities, supplies, and compensation of support personnel attributable to lobbying covered under the provisions of this chapter;

(b) the name of each public official on whose behalf the state agency or department initiated or made expenditures pursuant to Section 2‑17‑90 and a complete and itemized account of the amount expended by the state agency or department for each public official;

(c) any reimbursements of or expenditures for actual expenses as allowed in Section 2‑17‑100.

(B) Where total amounts are required to be reported, totals must be reported for the entire calendar year to date. The reports required by this section are not required from any agency whose only lobbying is appearing before any committee of the General Assembly at the request of that committee or at the request of any member or members of that committee.”

PART II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 6. Section 2‑19‑70(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) No member of the General Assembly may be elected to a judicial office while he is serving in the General Assembly nor shall that person be elected to a judicial office for a period of ~~one year~~ two years after he either:

(1) ceases to be a member of the General Assembly; or

(2) fails to file for election to the General Assembly in accordance with Section 7‑11‑15.”

SECTION 7. Section 8‑13‑100 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered item to read:

“() ‘Elected official’ means an elected official of the State, a county, a municipality, or a political subdivision thereof, including a candidate for the office. Elected official does not mean a member of the judiciary; except that for the purposes of campaign practices, campaign disclosure, and disclosure of economic interests, a probate judge or a candidate for the position of probate judge is considered an elected official and must meet the requirements of this chapter.”

SECTION 8. Section 8‑13‑130 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑130. The State Ethics Commission, Senate Ethics Committee, and House of Representatives Ethics Committee may levy an enforcement or administrative fee on a person who is found in violation, or who admits to a violation, ~~of the “Ethics, Government Accountability and Campaign Reform Act of 1991”~~ pursuant to Title 2 or Title 8. The fee must be used to reimburse the commission or the appropriate legislative Ethics Committee for costs associated with the investigation and hearing of a violation. The costs associated include:

(1) the investigator’s time;

(2) mileage, meals, and lodging;

(3) the prosecutor’s time;

(4) the hearing panel’s travel, per diem, and meals;

(5) administrative time;

(6) subpoena costs to include witness fees and mileage; and

(7) miscellaneous costs such as postage and supplies.

This fee is in addition to any fines as otherwise provided by law.”

PART III

ETHICS COMMITTEES

SECTION 9. A. Section 8‑13‑320(10)(g) of the 1976 Code, is amended to read:

“(g) All investigations, inquiries, hearings, and accompanying documents ~~must remain~~ are confidential and may only be released pursuant to this subsection. ~~until a finding of probable cause or dismissal, unless the respondent waives the right to confidentiality.~~ After a finding of probable cause by the commission, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response by the respondent, the notice of hearing, the commission’s findings, the final order, and the exhibits introduced at the hearing cited in the final order. Exhibits introduced must be redacted prior to release to exclude personal information where the public disclosure would constitute an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy. The respondent may waive the right to confidentiality. The wilful release of confidential information is a misdemeanor, and any person releasing ~~such~~ confidential information, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year.”

B. Section 8-13-320(10)(j) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(j) If a hearing is to be held, the respondent must be allowed to examine and make copies of all evidence in the commission’s possession relating to the charges. The same discovery techniques which are available to the commission must be equally available to the respondent, including the right to request the commission to subpoena witnesses or materials and the right to conduct depositions as prescribed by subitem (f). A panel of three commissioners must conduct a hearing in accordance with Chapter 23 of Title 1 (Administrative Procedures Act), except as otherwise expressly provided. Panel action requires the participation of the three panel members. During a commission panel hearing conducted to determine whether a violation of the chapter has occurred, the respondent must be afforded appropriate due process protections, including the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross‑examine opposing witnesses. All evidence, including records the commission considers, must be offered fully and made a part of the record in the proceedings. The hearings must be ~~held in executive session unless the respondent requests an open hearing~~ open to the public.”

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

C. Subsections 8-13-530(6) and (7) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(6) administer or recommend sanctions appropriate to a particular member, or staff of the appropriate house, or legislative caucus committee, or candidate for the appropriate house pursuant to Section 8‑13‑540, including the recovery of the value of anything transferred or received in breach of the ethical standards, or dismiss the charges; and

(7) act as an advisory body to the General Assembly and to individual members of or candidates for the appropriate house on questions pertaining to the disclosure and filing requirements of members of or candidates for the appropriate house~~.~~ and to issue, upon request from persons covered by this chapter and Chapter 17 of Title 2, and publish advisory opinions on the requirements of these chapters.”

D. Section 8-13-540(3) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(3) After the hearing, the ethics committee shall determine its findings of fact. If the ethics committee, based on competent and substantial evidence, finds the respondent has violated this chapter or Chapter 17 of Title 2, it shall:

(a) administer a public ~~or private~~ reprimand;

(b) determine that a technical violation as provided for in Section 8‑13‑1170 or Section 8-13-1372 has occurred;

(c) require the respondent to pay a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars for each non‑technical violation that is unrelated to the late filing of a required statement or report or failure to file a required statement or report;

(d) require the forfeiture of gifts, receipts, or profits, or the value thereof, obtained in violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or Chapter 17, Title 2;

~~(c)~~(e) recommend expulsion of the member;

~~(d)~~(f) in the case of an alleged criminal violation, refer the matter to the Attorney General for investigation;

(g) require a combination of items (a) though (f) as necessary and appropriate.

The ethics committee shall report its findings in writing to the Speaker of the House or President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as appropriate. The report must be accompanied by an order of punishment and supported and signed by a majority of the ethics committee members. If the ethics committee finds the respondent has not violated a code or statutory provision, it shall dismiss the charges.

(4) An individual has ten days from the date of the notification of the ethics committee's action to appeal the action to the full legislative body.

(5) No ethics committee member may participate in any matter in which he is involved.

(6) The ethics committee shall establish procedures which afford respondents appropriate due process protections, including the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross‑examine opposing witnesses."

E. Chapter 13, Title 8 is amended by adding Section 8-13-535 to read:

“Section 8-13-535. (A) The committee may issue a formal advisory opinion, based on real or hypothetical sets of circumstances. A formal advisory opinion issued by the committee is binding on the committee, until amended or revoked, in any subsequent charges concerning the person who requested the formal opinion and any other person who acted in reliance upon it in good faith unless material facts were omitted or misstated by the person in the request for the opinion. A formal advisory opinion must be in writing and is considered rendered when approved by a majority of the committee members subscribing to the advisory opinion. Advisory opinions must be made available to the public unless the committee, by majority vote of the total membership of the committee, requires an opinion to remain confidential. However, the identities of the parties involved must be withheld upon request.

(B) Staff of the appropriate ethics committee may issue a written informal advisory opinion, based on a real or hypothetical set of circumstances, to a member upon that member’s request. If raised in response to a complaint, the appropriate committee shall consider whether the member relied, in good faith, upon a written informal opinion prior to making a probable cause determination or concurring in a determination, as applicable. A written informal advisory opinion issued by the committee staff is binding on the committee, until amended or revoked, in any subsequent charges concerning the person who requested the informal opinion unless material facts were omitted or misstated by the person in the request for the opinion.

(C) The appropriate ethics committee must consider whether a person relied in good faith upon a formal advisory opinion or written informal opinion issued by the committee prior to the effective date of this act, unless amended or revoked prior to the action considered as a possible violation, prior to making a probable cause decision.”

PART IV

RULES OF CONDUCT

SECTION 10. Section 8-13-700 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-700. (A) ~~No~~ A public official, public member, or public employee may not knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to:

(1) obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated~~.~~;

(2) participate or engage in a private business for which the public official, public member, or public employee is compensated for services rendered during the hours of employment for the State or for a political subdivision of the State. However, this item does not apply to a member of the General Assembly provided it does not result in additional public expense or interfere with the performance of his official duties or responsibilities;

(3) use offices, equipment, materials, or supplies of the State or a political subdivision of the State for a private business or for private business activities for which the public official, public member, or public employee is compensated.

This prohibition does not extend to the incidental use of public materials, personnel, or equipment, subject to or available for a public official’s, public member’s, or public employee’s use that does not result in additional public expense, or to the incidental conversations, communications, or activities of a part-time public official or a part-time public member related to his primary occupation or business that does not interfere with the performance of his official duties or responsibilities.

(B) ~~No~~ A public official, public member, or public employee may not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his office, membership, or employment to influence a governmental decision in which he, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated has an economic interest. If a member of the General Assembly determines that he has a conflict pursuant to this section, he shall comply with items (1) and (2) before abstaining from all votes on the matter. A public official, public member, or public employee who, in the discharge of his official responsibilities, is required to take an action or make a decision which affects an economic interest of himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated shall:

(1) prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decisions and the specific nature of his potential conflict of interest with respect to the action or decision;

(2) if the public official is a member of the General Assembly, he shall deliver a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the appropriate house. The presiding officer shall have the statement printed in the appropriate journal and require that the member of the General Assembly be excused from votes, deliberations, and other action on the matter on which a potential conflict exists;

(3) if he is a public employee, he shall furnish a copy of the statement to his superior, if any, who shall assign the matter to another employee who does not have a potential conflict of interest. If he has no immediate superior, he shall take the action prescribed by the State Ethics Commission;

(4) if he is a public official, other than a member of the General Assembly, he shall furnish a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the governing body of an agency, commission, board, or of a county, municipality, or a political subdivision thereof, on which he serves, who shall cause the statement to be printed in the minutes and require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and other actions on the matter on which the potential conflict of interest exists and shall cause the disqualification and the reasons for it to be noted in the minutes;

(5) if he is a public member, he shall furnish a copy to the presiding officer of an agency, commission, board, or of a county, municipality, or a political subdivision thereof, on which he serves, who shall cause the statement to be printed in the minutes and shall require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and other actions on the matter on which the potential conflict of interest exists and shall cause such disqualification and the reasons for it to be noted in the minutes.

(C) Where a public official, public member, or public employee or a member of his immediate family holds an economic interest in a blind trust, he is not considered to have a conflict of interest with regard to matters pertaining to that economic interest, if the existence of the blind trust has been disclosed to the appropriate supervisory office.

(D) The provisions of this section do not apply to any court in the unified judicial system.

(E) When a member of the General Assembly is required by law to appear because of his business interest as an owner or officer of the business or in his official capacity as a member of the General Assembly, this section does not apply.

(F) Any public official who must recuse himself pursuant to this section shall do so at all times during consideration of the matter before the body or agency of which the public official is a member. The requirement of recusal under this section applies to, but is not limited to, participation in matters considered by committees, subcommittees, study committees, or other components of the body or agency of which the public official is a member. The requirement of recusal does not apply to participation in any procedural matters considered by the committee, subcommittee, or other component of the body or agency of which the public official is a member.

SECTION 11. Section 8‑13‑710(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) A public official, public member, or public employee required to file a statement of economic interests under Section 8‑13‑1110 who receives, accepts, or takes, directly or indirectly, from a person, anything of value worth twenty‑five dollars or more in a day ~~and anything of value worth~~ or if the value totals, in the aggregate, two hundred dollars or more in ~~the aggregate in~~ a calendar year must report on his statement of economic interests pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1120 the thing of value from:

(1) a person, if there is reason to believe the donor would not give the thing of value but for the public official’s, public member’s, or public employee’s office or position;

(2) a person, or from an officer or director of a person, if the public official, public member, or public employee has reason to believe the person:

(a) has or is seeking to obtain contractual or other business or financial relationships with the public official’s, public member’s, or public employee’s governmental entity;

(b) conducts operations or activities which are regulated by the public official’s, public member’s, or public employee’s governmental entity.”

SECTION 12. Section 8-13-720 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“~~No~~ A person may not offer or pay to a public official, public member, or public employee and ~~no~~ a public official, public member, or public employee may not solicit or receive money in addition to that received by the public official, public member, or public employee in his official capacity for advice or assistance given in the course of his employment as a public official, public member, or public employee."

SECTION 13. Section 8-13-725(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) A public official, public member, or public employee may not use or disclose confidential information gained in the course of or by reason of his official responsibilities in a way that would affect an economic interest held by him, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated.

SECTION 14. Section 8‑13‑740(A)(2)(c) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 181 of 1993, is further amended to read:

“(c) in a contested case or a matter that may become a contested case, as defined in Section 1‑23‑310, excluding a contested case for a rate or price fixing matter before the South Carolina Public Service Commission or South Carolina Department of Insurance, or in an agency’s consideration of the drafting and promulgation of regulations under Chapter 23, ~~of~~ Title 1 in a public hearing.”

SECTION 15. Section 8-13-755 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-755. A former public official, former public member, or former public employee holding public office, membership, or employment on or after January 1, 1992, may not for a period of ~~one year~~ two years after terminating his public service or employment:

(1) serve as a lobbyist or represent clients before the agency or department on which he formerly served in a matter which he directly and substantially participated during his public service or employment, unless otherwise prohibited pursuant to Section 2-17-15; or

(2) accept employment if the employment:

(a) is from a person who is regulated by the agency or department on which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee served or was employed; and

(b) involves a matter in which the former public official, former public member, or former public employee directly and substantially participated during his public service or public employment.

SECTION 16. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8-13-756. The provisions of Sections 8-13-700, 8-13-710, 8-13-715, and 8-13-755 do not apply to a public employee of an institution of higher education who participates in the development of intellectual property that benefits the institution and the State of South Carolina, provided that the institution of higher education retains some royalty rights to the intellectual property.”

SECTION 17. Section 8‑13‑775 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑775. (A) A public official, public member, or public employee may not have an economic interest in a contract with the State or its political subdivisions if the public official, public member, or public employee is authorized to perform an official function relating to the contract. Official function means writing or preparing the contract specifications, acceptance of bids, award of the contract, or other action on the preparation or award of the contract.

(B) A public official, public member, or public employee may not award a contract to, nor participate in any discussion concerning, the award of a contract with the State if he is a state public official, member or employee, or its political subdivisions if he is a public official, member or employee of that political subdivision for either a business or an individual with which he is associated, or to a business associated with a member of the public official’s, public member’s, or public employee’s immediate family.

(C) This section is not intended to infringe on or prohibit public employment contracts with this State or a political subdivision of this State nor does it prohibit the award of contracts awarded through a process of public notice and competitive bids if the public official, public member, or public employee has not performed an official function nor participate in any discussion regarding the contract.”

SECTION 18. Section 8‑13‑780(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) In addition to existing remedies for breach of the ethical standards of this chapter ~~or regulations promulgated hereunder~~, the State Ethics Commission may impose ~~an oral or~~ a written warning or reprimand.”

SECTION 19. Section 8‑13‑790(A) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(A) The value of anything transferred or received in breach of the ethical standards of Articles 1 through 11 of this chapter or regulations promulgated under it by a public employee, public official, or a nonpublic employee or official ~~may~~ must be recovered from the public employee, public official, or nonpublic employee or official.”

PART V

DISCLOSURE OF ECONOMIC INTEREST

SECTION 20. Section 8‑13‑360 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-360. Upon request, the commission shall make statements and reports filed with the commission available for public inspection and copying during regular office hours. The commission shall provide copying facilities at a cost not to exceed the actual cost. A statement may be requested by mail, and the commission shall mail a copy of the requested information to the individual making the request upon payment of appropriate postage, copying costs, and employee labor costs. The commission must also make statements and reports filed with the commission electronically accessible to the public. The commission shall publish and make available to the public and to persons subject to this chapter explanatory information concerning this chapter, the duties imposed by this chapter, and the means for enforcing this chapter.”

SECTION 21. Section 8‑13‑1110 of the 1976 is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1110. (A) No public official, regardless of compensation, and no public member or public employee as designated in subsection (B) may take the oath of office or enter upon his official responsibilities unless he has filed a statement of economic interests pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 ~~in accordance with the appropriate supervisory office~~. ~~If a public official, public member, or public employee referred to in this section has no economic interests to disclose, he shall nevertheless file a statement of inactivity to that effect with the appropriate supervisory office. All disclosure statements are matters of public record open to inspection upon request.~~

(B) Each of the following public officials, public members, and public employees must file a statement of economic interests ~~with the appropriate supervisory office~~, unless otherwise provided:

(1) a person appointed to fill the unexpired term of an elective office;

(2) a salaried member of a ~~state~~ board, commission, or agency;

(3) the chief administrative official or employee and the deputy or assistant administrative official or employee ~~or director of a division, institution, or facility~~ of any agency or department of state government;

(4) the city administrator, city manager, or chief municipal administrative official or employee, by whatever title;

(5) the county manager, county administrator, county supervisor, or chief county administrative official or employee, by whatever title;

(6) the chief administrative official or employee of each political subdivision including, but not limited to, school districts, libraries, regional planning councils, airport commissions, hospitals, community action agencies, water and sewer districts, and development commissions;

(7) a school district and county superintendent of education;

(8) a school district board member and a county board of education member;

(9) the chief finance official or employee and the chief purchasing official or employee of each agency, institution, or facility of state government, and of each county, municipality, or other political subdivision including, but not limited to, those named in item (6);

(10) a public official;

(11) a public member who serves on a state board, commission, or council; and

(12) Department of Transportation District Engineering Administrators.”

SECTION 22. Section 8‑13‑1120 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1120. (A) A statement of economic interests filed pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1110 ~~must be on forms prescribed by the State Ethics Commission and~~ must contain full and complete information concerning:

(1) the name, business or government address, and workplace telephone number of the filer;

(2) the source, type, and amount or value of income, not to include tax refunds, of substantial monetary value received from a governmental entity by the filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family during the reporting period;

(3)(a) the description, value, and location of all real property owned and options to purchase real property during the reporting period by a filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family if:

(i) there have been any public improvements of more than two hundred dollars on or adjacent to the real property within the reporting period and the public improvements are known to the filer; or

(ii) the interest can reasonably be expected to be the subject of a conflict of interest; or

(b) if a sale, lease, or rental of personal or real property is to a state, county, or municipal instrumentality of government, a copy of the contract, lease, or rental agreement must be attached to the statement of economic interests;

(4) the name of each organization which paid for or reimbursed actual expenses of the filer for speaking before a public or private group, the amount of such payment or reimbursement, and the purpose, date, and location of the speaking engagement;

(5) the identity of every business or entity in which the filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family held or controlled, in the aggregate, securities or interests constituting five percent or more of the total issued and outstanding securities and interests which constitute a value of one hundred thousand dollars or more;

(6)(a) a listing by name and address of each creditor to whom the filer or member of the filer’s immediate family owed a debt in excess of five hundred dollars at any time during the reporting period, if the creditor is subject to regulation by the filer or is seeking or has sought a business or financial arrangement with the filer’s agency or department other than for a credit card or retail installment contract, and the original amount of the debt and amount outstanding unless:

(i) the debt is promised or loaned by a bank, savings and loan, or other licensed financial institution which loans money in the ordinary course of its business and on terms and interest rates generally available to a member of the general public without regard to status as a public official, public member, or public employee; or

(ii) the debt is promised or loaned by an individual’s family member if the person who promises or makes the loan is not acting as the agent or intermediary for someone other than a person named in this subitem; and

(b) the rate of interest charged the filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family for a debt required to be reported in (a);

If a discharge of a debt required to be reported in (a) has been made, the date of the transaction must be shown.

(7) the name of any lobbyist, as defined in Section 2‑17‑10(13) who is:

(a) an immediate family member of the filer;

(b) an individual with whom or business with which the filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family is associated;

(8) if a public official, public member, or public employee receives compensation from an individual or business which contracts with the governmental entity with which the public official, public member~~,~~ or public employee serves or is employed, the public official, public member, or public employee must report the name and address of that individual or business and the amount of ~~compensation paid to the public official, public member, or public employee by~~ of the contract between the governmental entity and that individual or business;

(9) the source and a brief description of any gifts, including transportation, lodging, food, or entertainment received during the preceding calendar year from:

(a) a person, if there is reason to believe the donor would not give the gift, gratuity, or favor but for the official’s or employee’s office or position; or

(b) a person, or from an officer or director of a person, if the public official or public employee has reason to believe the person:

(i) has or is seeking to obtain contractual or other business or financial relationship with the official’s or employee’s agency; or

(ii) conducts operations or activities which are regulated by the official’s or employee’s agency if the value of the gift is twenty‑five dollars or more in a day or if the value totals, in the aggregate, two hundred dollars or more in a calendar year~~.~~ ;

(10) the source of any other income received by the filer or a member of the filer’s immediate family, not to include income received pursuant to:

(i) a court order;

(ii) a savings, checking or brokerage account with a bank, savings and loan, or other licensed financial institution which offers savings, checking or brokerage accounts in the ordinary course of its business and on terms and interest rates generally available to a member of the general public without regard to status as a public official, public member, or public employee;

(iii) a mutual fund or similar fund in which an investment company invests its shareholders’ money in a diversified selection of securities.

(11) the specific source of income received by a public official, a member of the public official's immediate family, or a business with which the public official or a member of his immediate family are associated if the public official or a member of the public official's immediate family directly derives income from a:

(i) contractual or financial relationship, including a consultant or independent contractor's relationship, with a lobbyist's principal or an entity controlled by, affiliated with, or existing for the benefit of a lobbyist’s principal;

(ii) contractual or financial relationship, including a consultant or independent contractor relationship, with a state or local governmental entity;

(iii) source regulated by the governmental regulatory agency with which the public official serves.

For purposes of item (11), 'contractual or financial relationship' does not include a relationship from which income received by a public official, a member of the public official's immediate family, or a business with which the public official or his immediate family is associated is derived from commercial transactions in which the fair market value of goods transferred or services rendered is paid.

(12) the specific source of income received by a public member, a member of the public member's immediate family, or a business with which the public member or a member of his immediate family are associated if the public member or his immediate family directly derives income from a source regulated by the governmental regulatory agency with which the public member serves.

(B) This article does not require the disclosure of economic interests information concerning:

(1) a spouse separated pursuant to a court order from the public official, public member, or public employee;

(2) a former spouse;

(3) a campaign contribution that is permitted and reported under Article 13 of this chapter; or

(4) matters determined to require confidentiality pursuant to Section 2‑17‑90(E).”

SECTION 23. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑13‑1145. The appropriate supervisory office must send an electronic notice of obligation to report no less than thirty days before the filing date to the e‑mail address provided by the filer to any filer who has not yet filed a current statement of economic interests. The filer is not relieved of reporting responsibilities if the notice is not sent or if the filer does not receive a notice.”

SECTION 24. Section 8‑13‑1150 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1150. A consultant must file a statement for the previous calendar year ~~with the appropriate supervisory office~~ , pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365, no later than twenty‑one days after entering into a contractual relationship with the State or a political subdivision of the State and must file an update within ten days from the date the consultant knows or should have known that new economic interests in an entity have arisen in which the consultant or a member of the consultant’s immediate family has economic interests:

(1) where the entity’s bid was evaluated by the consultant and who was subsequently awarded the contract by the State, county, municipality, or a political subdivision of any of these entities that contracted with the consultant; or

(2) where the entity was awarded a contract by the consultant.”

SECTION 25. Section 8‑13‑1170 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1170. (A) The appropriate supervisory office may, in its discretion, determine that errors or omissions on statements of economic interests are inadvertent and unintentional and not an effort to violate a requirement of this chapter and may be handled as technical violations not subject to the provisions of this chapter pertaining to ethical violations. ~~Technical violations must remain confidential unless requested to be made public by the public official, public member, or public employee filing the statement.~~ In lieu of all other penalties, the appropriate supervisory office may assess a technical violations penalty not exceeding fifty dollars.

(B) The appropriate supervisory office may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing a statement of economic interests. The extension may not exceed thirty days except in cases of illness or incapacitation.”

SECTION 26. Section 8‑13‑1160 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 27. Section 8‑13‑1180 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

PART VI

CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

SECTION 28. Section 8‑13‑1300(3) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(3) ‘Business’ means a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, proprietorship, firm, an enterprise, a franchise, an association, organization, or a self‑employed individual.”

SECTION 29. Section 8‑13‑1300(6) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(6) ‘Committee’ means a person, two or more individuals, such as any person, association, organization, or other entity that makes, or accepts anything of value to make, contributions or expenditures and has one or more of the following characteristics:

(a) is a political party or executive committee of a political party or is controlled by a political party or executive committee of a political party; or

(b) has the major purpose to support or oppose the nomination or election of one or more clearly identified candidates.

~~an association, a club, an organization, or a group of persons which, to influence the outcome of an elective office, receives contributions or makes expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars in the aggregate during an election cycle. It also means a person who, to influence the outcome of an elective office, makes:~~

~~(a) contributions aggregating at least twenty‑five thousand dollars during an election cycle to or at the request of a candidate or a committee, or a combination of them; or~~

~~(b) independent expenditures aggregating five hundred dollars or more during an election cycle for the election or defeat of a candidate.~~

Supporting or opposing the election of clearly identified candidates include supporting or opposing the candidates of a clearly identified political party.

If the entity qualifies as a ‘committee’ pursuant to this section, it continues to be a committee if it receives contributions or makes expenditures or maintains assets or liabilities. A committee ceases to exist when it winds up its operations, disposes of its assets, and files its final report.

‘Committee’ includes a party committee, a legislative caucus committee, a noncandidate committee, or a committee that is not a campaign committee for a candidate but that is organized for ~~the purpose of influencing an election~~ and has as the major purpose the support of or opposition to the nomination or election of a candidate to an elective office.

(c) For purposes of this section, factors that shall be considered to indicate a committee has the major purpose of supporting or opposing the nomination or election of one or more clearly identified candidates include, but are not limited to:

(i) any of the committee’s organizational documents, such as bylaws or articles of incorporation, identify advocacy in support of or in opposition to the nomination or election of one or more candidates as its major purpose;

(ii) over fifty percent of the committee’s disbursements made within the State in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the nomination or election of one or more candidates to an elective office;

(iii) over fifty percent of the committee’s total disbursements made in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the nomination or election of one or more candidates to an elective office; or

(iii) the committee’s public statements, including statements made in oral or written fundraising solicitations, identify advocacy in support of or in opposition to the nomination or election of one or more candidates to elective office as its major purpose.”

SECTION 30. Section 8-13-1300(7) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(7) ‘Contribution’ means a gift, subscription, loan, guarantee upon which collection is made, forgiveness of a loan, an advance, in‑kind contribution or expenditure, a deposit of money, or anything of value made to a candidate or committee to influence an election; or payment or compensation for the personal service of another person which is rendered for any purpose to a candidate or committee without charge, whether any of the above are made or offered directly or indirectly. ‘Contribution’ does not include ~~(a)~~ volunteer personal services on behalf of a candidate or committee for which the volunteer or any person acting on behalf of or instead of the volunteer receives no compensation either in cash or in‑kind, directly or indirectly, from any source~~; or (b) a gift, subscription, loan, guarantee upon which collection is made, forgiveness of a loan, an advance, in‑kind contribution or expenditure, a deposit of money, or anything of value made to a committee, other than a candidate committee, and is used to pay for communications made not more than forty‑five days before the election to influence the outcome of an elective office as defined in Section 8‑13‑1300(31)(c)~~. ~~These funds must be deposited in an account separate from a campaign account as required in Section 8‑13‑1312~~.”

SECTION 31. Section 8-13-1300(17) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(17) ‘Independent expenditure’ means:

(a) an expenditure made or incurred directly or indirectly by a person to advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or ballot measure; and

(b) when taken as a whole and in context, the expenditure made by a person to influence the outcome of an elective office or ballot measure but which is not:

(i) made to;

(ii) controlled by;

(iii) coordinated with;

(iv) requested by; or

(v) made upon consultation with a candidate or an agent of a candidate; or a committee or agent of a committee; or a ballot measure committee or an agent of a ballot measure committee.

SECTION 32. Section 8-13-1300(23) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(23) ‘Noncandidate committee’ means a committee that is not a campaign committee for a candidate but is organized ~~to influence an election or to support or oppose a candidate or public official,~~ for the major purpose to support or oppose the nomination or election of a candidate to elective office, which receives contributions or makes expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars in the aggregate during an election cycle. ‘Noncandidate committee’ does not include political action committees that contribute solely to federal campaigns. For purposes of this section, factors that shall be considered to indicate a noncandidate committee has the major purpose to support or to oppose the nomination or election of one or more clearly identified candidates include, but are not limited to:

(a) any of the committee’s organizational documents, such as bylaws or articles of incorporation, identify advocacy to support or oppose the nomination or election of one or more candidates for elective office as its major purpose;

(b) over fifty percent of the committee’s disbursements made within the State in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the nomination or election of one or more candidates for elective office;

(c) over fifty percent of the committee’s total disbursements made in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the nomination or election of one or more candidates for elective office; or

(d) the committee’s public statements, including statements made in oral or written fundraising solicitations, identify advocacy in support of or in opposition to the nomination or election of one or more candidates for elective office as its major purpose.”

SECTION 33. Section 8‑13‑1300(31) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(31) ‘Influence the outcome of an elective office’ means:

(a) expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate using words including or substantially similar to ‘vote for’, ‘elect’, ‘cast your ballot for’, ‘Smith for Governor’, ‘vote against’, ‘defeat’, or ‘reject’; or

(b) communicating campaign slogans or individual words that, taken in context, have no other reasonable meaning other than to urge the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate including or substantially similar to slogans or words such as ‘~~Smith”s~~ Smith’s the One’, ‘Jones 2000’, ‘Smith/Jones’ , ‘Jones!’, or ‘Smith‑A man for the People!’~~;~~ ~~or~~

~~(c)~~ ~~any communication made, not more than forty‑five days before an election, which promotes or supports a candidate or attacks or opposes a candidate, regardless of whether the communication expressly advocates a vote for or against a candidate. For purposes of this paragraph, “communication” means (i) any paid advertisement or purchased program time broadcast over television or radio; (ii) any paid message conveyed through telephone banks, direct mail, or electronic mail; or (iii) any paid advertisement that costs more than five thousand dollars that is conveyed through a communication medium other than those set forth in subsections (i) or (ii) of this paragraph. “Communication” does not include news, commentary, or editorial programming or article, or communication to an organization’s own members~~.”

SECTION 34. Section 8‑13‑1300(32) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(32) ‘Ballot measure committee’ means~~:~~

~~(a)~~ ~~an association, club, an organization, or a group of persons which, to influence the outcome of a ballot measure, receives contributions or makes expenditures in excess of two thousand five hundred dollars in the aggregate during an election cycle;~~

~~(b)~~ ~~a person, other than an individual, who, to influence the outcome of a ballot measure, makes contributions aggregating at least fifty thousand dollars during an election cycle to or at the request of a ballot measure committee; or~~

~~(c)~~ ~~a person, other than an individual, who, to influence the outcome of a ballot measure, makes independent expenditures aggregating two thousand five hundred dollars or more during an election cycle~~.

a person, two or more individuals, such as any person, association, organization, or other entity that makes or accepts anything of value to make, contributions or expenditures that has the major purpose to support or oppose the passage of a ballot measure.

For purposes of this section, factors that shall be considered to indicate a ballot measure committee has the major purpose of supporting or opposing the passage of one or more ballot measures include, but are not limited to:

(1) any of the committee’s organizational documents, such as bylaws or articles of incorporation, identify advocacy to support or to oppose the passage of one or more ballot measures as its major purpose;

(2) over fifty percent of the committee’s disbursements made within the State in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the passage of one or more ballot measures; or

(3) over fifty percent of the committee’s total disbursements made in a calendar year are made to support or to oppose the passage of one or more ballot measures; or

(4) the committee’s public statements, including statements made in oral or written fundraising solicitations, identify advocacy in support of or in opposition to the passage of one or more ballot measures as its major purpose."

SECTION 35. Section 8‑13‑1300 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered subsection to read:

“( ) ‘Public member’ means an individual appointed to a noncompensated part‑time position on a board, commission, or council. A public member does not lose this status by receiving reimbursement of expenses or a per diem payment for services.”

SECTION 36. Section 8‑13‑1300 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered subsection to read:

“() ‘electioneering communication’ means any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication or mass postal mailing or telephone bank that has the following characteristics:

(a) refers to a candidate for elected office,

(b) that is publically aired or distributed within sixty days prior to a general election or within thirty days prior to a primary for that office, and

(c) may be received by either:

(i) fifty thousand or more individuals in the State in an election for statewide office or seven thousand five hundred or more individuals in any other election if in the form of broadcast, cable, or satellite communication,

(ii) twenty thousand or more households, cumulative per election, in a statewide election or two thousand five hundred households, cumulative per election, in any other election if in the form of mass mailing or telephone bank.

(d) The definition does not include:

(i) a communication appearing in a news story, commentary, or editorial distributed through the facilities of any broadcasting station, unless those facilities are owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate,

(ii) a communication that constitutes an expenditure or independent expenditure under this Article,

(iii) a communication that constitutes a candidate debate or forum conducted pursuant to rules adopted by a political party or that solely promotes that debate or forum and is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or forum,

(iv) a communication made which, incidental to advocacy for or against a specific piece of legislation, ordinance, or local initiative, pending before the General Assembly or governing body of a political subdivision, urges the audience to communicate with a member or members of the General Assembly or the governing body of a political subdivision, concerning that piece of legislation, ordinance, or local initiative, or

(v) a communication that meets all of the following criteria:

(1) does not mention any election, candidacy, political party, opposing candidate, or voting by the general public;

(2) does not take a position on the candidate’s character or qualifications and fitness for office; and

(3) proposes a commercial transaction.”

SECTION 37. Section 8-13-1300 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered subsection to read:

“( ) ‘Independent expenditure-only committee’ means a committee that:

(a) is not made by, controlled by, coordinated with, requested by, or made in consultation with a candidate, an agent of a candidate, a political party, or an agent of a political party;

(b) does not make contributions to any candidate or other committee, with the exception of other independent expenditure-only committees;

(c) makes only independent expenditures; and

(d) is organized for the major purpose to support or oppose the nomination or election of a candidate to elective office.”

SECTION 38. Section 8-13-1308 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-1308. (A) Upon the receipt or expenditure of campaign contributions or the making of independent expenditures totaling an accumulated aggregate of five hundred dollars or more, a candidate or committee required to file a statement of organization pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1304(A) must file an initial certified campaign report within ten days of these initial receipts or expenditures. However, a candidate who does not receive or expend campaign contributions totaling an accumulated aggregate of five hundred dollars or more must file an initial certified campaign report fifteen days before an election.

(B) Following the filing of an initial certified campaign report, additional certified campaign reports must be filed within ten days following the end of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or expenditures are made, whether before or after an election until the campaign account undergoes final disbursement pursuant to the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1370.

(C) Campaign reports filed by a candidate must be certified by the candidate. Campaign reports filed by a committee must be certified by a duly authorized officer of the committee.

(D)(1) At least fifteen days before an election, a certified campaign report must be filed showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the candidate or committee for the period ending twenty days before the election. The candidate or committee must maintain a current list during the period before the election commencing at the beginning of the calendar quarter of the election of all contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures. The list must be open to public inspection upon request.

(2) A committee immediately shall file a campaign report listing expenditures if it makes an independent expenditure or an incurred expenditure within the calendar quarter in which the election is conducted or twenty days before the election, whichever period of time is greater, in excess of:

(a) ten thousand dollars in the case of a candidate for statewide office; or

(b) two thousand dollars in the case of a candidate for any other office.

(3) In the event of a runoff election, candidates or committees are not required to file another campaign report in addition to the reports already required under this section. However, records must remain open to public inspection upon request between the election and the runoff.

(E) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (B) and (D), if a pre‑election campaign report provided for in subsection (D) is required to be filed within thirty days of the end of the prior quarter, a candidate or committee must combine the quarterly report provided for in subsection (B) and the pre‑election report and file the combined report subject to the provisions of subsection (D) no later than fifteen days before the election.

(F) Five days before an election, a candidate or committee must amend and file the previously filed pre-election certified campaign report required under subsection (D) showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the candidate or committee to that date not previously reported and through the sixth day before the election. The report required by this section must be electronically filed and publicly accessible in the manner provided by Section 8‑13‑365.

~~(F)~~(G) Certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain:

(1) the total of contributions accepted by the candidate or committee;

(2) the name and address of each person making a contribution of more than one hundred dollars and the amount and date of receipt of each contribution;

(3) the total expenditures made by or on behalf of the candidate or committee;

(4) the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds, including the date, amount, purpose, and beneficiary of the expenditure.

~~(G)~~(H) Notwithstanding any other reporting requirements in this chapter, a political party, legislative caucus committee, and a party committee must file a certified campaign report upon the receipt of anything of value which totals in the aggregate five hundred dollars or more. For purposes of this section, ‘anything of value’ includes contributions received which may be used for the payment of operation expenses of a political party, legislative caucus committee, or a party committee. A political party also must comply with the reporting requirements of subsections (B), (C), ~~and~~ (F), and (G) of Section 8‑13‑1308 in the same manner as a candidate or committee.

~~(H)~~(I) A committee that solicits contributions pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1331 must certify compliance with that section on a form prescribed by the State Ethics Commission*.*

(J) All reports required by this section must be filed pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365.”

SECTION 39. Section 8‑13‑1309 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-1309. (A) Upon the receipt or expenditure of campaign contributions or the making of independent expenditures totaling, in an accumulated aggregate, two thousand five hundred dollars or more, a ballot measure committee required to file a statement of organization pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1304(B) must file an initial certified campaign report within ten days of these initial receipts or expenditures.

(B) Following the filing of an initial certified campaign report, additional certified campaign reports must be filed within ten days following the end of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or expenditures are made, whether before or after a ballot measure election until the campaign account undergoes final disbursement pursuant to the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1370(C).

(C) At least fifteen days before a ballot measure election, a certified campaign report must be filed showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the ballot measure committee for the period ending twenty days before the ballot measure election. The ballot measure committee must maintain a current list during the period before the ballot measure election commencing at the beginning of the calendar quarter of the election of all contributions of more than one hundred dollars. The list must be open to public inspection upon request.

(D) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (B) and (C), if a pre‑election campaign report provided for in subsection (C) is required to be filed within thirty days of the end of the prior quarter, a ballot measure committee must combine the quarterly report provided for in subsection (B) and the pre‑election report and file the combined report subject to the provisions of subsection (C) no later than fifteen days before the ballot measure election.

(E) Five days before a ballot measure election, a ballot measure committee must amend and file the previously filed pre-election certified campaign report required under subsection (C) showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to the committee to that date not previously reported and through the sixth day before the election. The report required by this section must be filed electronically and publicly accessible in the manner provided by Section 8-13-365.

~~(E)~~(F) Certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain:

(1) the total amount of contributions accepted by the ballot measure committee;

(2) the name and address of each person making a contribution of more than one hundred dollars and the amount and date of receipt of each contribution;

(3) the total amount of expenditures made by or on behalf of the ballot measure committee; and

(4) the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds, including the date, amount, purpose, and beneficiary of the expenditure.

(G) All reports required by this Section must be filed pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365.”

SECTION 40. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8-13-1311. Independent expenditure-only committees must:

(A) file a statement of organization with the State Ethics Commission no later than five days after receiving or expending more than five hundred dollars in the aggregate during an election cycle to influence the outcome of an elective office;

(B) under penalty of perjury, the chief executive officer or the controlling individual of the committee must file a certification that the independent expenditure-only committee is not made in cooperation, consultation, or concert, with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate or any authorized committee or agent of such candidate;

(C) only make independent expenditures; and

(D) comply with all requirements, disclosures, and restrictions of committees under this Article except contribution limits under section 8-13-1322.”

SECTION 41. Section 8‑13‑1312 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1312. ~~Except as is required for the separation of funds and expenditures under the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1300(7), a~~ A candidate shall not establish more than one campaign checking account and one campaign savings account for each office sought, and a committee shall not establish more than one checking account and one savings account unless federal or state law requires additional accounts. For purposes of this article, certificates of deposit or other interest bearing instruments are not considered separate accounts. A candidate’s accounts must be established in a financial institution that conducts business within the State and in an office located within the State that conducts business with the general public. The candidate or a duly authorized officer of a committee must maintain the accounts in the name of the candidate or committee. An acronym must not be used in the case of a candidate’s accounts. An acronym or abbreviation may be used in the case of a committee’s accounts if the acronym or abbreviation commonly is known or clearly recognized by the general public. Except as otherwise provided under Section 8‑13‑1348(C), expenses paid on behalf of a candidate or committee must be drawn from the campaign account and issued on a check signed by the candidate or a duly authorized officer of a committee. All contributions received by the candidate or committee, directly or indirectly, must be deposited in the campaign account by the candidate or committee within ten days after receipt. All contributions received by an agent of a candidate or committee must be forwarded to the candidate or committee not later than five days after receipt. A contribution must not be deposited until the candidate or committee receives information regarding the name and address of the contributor. If the name and address cannot be determined within seven days after receipt, the contribution must be remitted to the Children’s Trust Fund.”

SECTION 42. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑13‑1313 A person who is not a committee required to file subject to Section 8‑13‑1304 and who makes an independent expenditure in an aggregate amount or value in excess of five hundred dollars during a calendar year or makes an electioneering communication must file a report of such expenditure or communication with the State Ethics Commission electronically in the manner prescribed by the Commission pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 within thirty days or if the independent expenditure or electioneering communication is made within thirty days before an election, the report must be filed within forty‑eight hours. The report must include:

(1) a detailed description of the use of the expenditure or communication and the amount of the expenditure or the cost of the communication;

(2) the full name, primary occupation, street address, and phone number of the reporting person;

(3) the identification of the chief executive officer or for all controlling individuals if the reporting person is a business or another organization that is not an individual, to include name, title, employer, and address;

(4) the name of the candidate or ballot measure that is the target of the independent expenditure or electioneering communication and whether the expenditure or communication was made in support of, or opposition to, the candidate or ballot measure;

(5) the chief executive officer or controlling individual must file, under penalty of perjury, a certification that the independent expenditure is not made in cooperation, consultation, or concert, with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate or any authorized committee or agent of such candidate; and

(6)(a) the identification of the top five donors to the reporting person and for any donor who has donated more than ten thousand dollars to the committee within the previous twelve months, to include name, primary occupation, address, and amount of the donation; and

(b) if the donor is a business or another organization that is not an individual, then the identification must indicate the name and title of the chief executive officer or the controlling individual of the donor organization.”

SECTION 43. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑13‑1315. An elected official, or a candidate for public office, may not coordinate, consult with, solicit for, or act in concert or at the request of an independent expenditure‑only committee registered with the State Ethics Commission that supports or opposes a candidate for that office.”

SECTION 44. Section 8‑13‑1318 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1318. If a candidate has a debt from a campaign for an elective office, the candidate may accept contributions to retire the debt, even if the candidate accepts contributions for another elective office or the same elective office during a subsequent election cycle, as long as those contributions accepted to retire the debt are:

(1) within the contribution limits applicable to the last election in which the candidate sought the elective office for which the debt was incurred; and

(2) reported as provided in this article.

If a candidate accepts a contribution to retire a debt from a campaign for an elective office, the contribution must be utilized to retire the debt.”

SECTION 45. Section 8‑13‑1320(1) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(1) A contribution made on or before the seventh day after a primary ~~or primary runoff~~ is attributed to the primary ~~or primary runoff, respectively~~. However, in the event of a primary runoff, all contributions made after the day of the primary and continuing through the seventh day after the primary runoff are attributed to the primary runoff for the purposes of applying contribution limits.”

SECTION 46. Section 8-13-1322 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8-13-1322. (A) A person may not contribute to a committee and a committee may not accept from a person contributions aggregating more than three thousand five hundred dollars in a calendar year.

(B) A person may not contribute to a committee and a committee may not accept from a person a cash contribution unless the cash contribution does not exceed twenty‑five dollars for each election and is accompanied by a record of the amount of the contribution and the name and address of the contributor.

(C) The provisions of subsection (A) do not apply to independent expenditure-only committees registered with the State Ethics Commission.”

SECTION 47. Section 8‑13‑1328 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1328. (A) A candidate for statewide office ~~or the candidate’s family member~~ must not be repaid, for a loan made to the candidate, more than twenty‑five thousand dollars in the aggregate after the election.

(B) A candidate for an elective office other than those specified in subsection (A) ~~or a family member of a candidate for an elective office other than those specified in subsection (A)~~ must not be repaid, for a loan made to the candidate, more than ten thousand dollars in the aggregate after the election.”

SECTION 48. Chapter 13, Title 8 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 8‑13‑1337. (A) An elective official or the elective official’s agent may not knowingly solicit a contribution from an employee in the elective official’s area of official responsibility.

(B) A public official or public employee may not provide an advantage or disadvantage to a public employee or applicant for public employment concerning employment, conditions of employment, or application for employment based on the employee’s or applicant’s contribution, promise to contribute, or failure to contribute to a candidate, a political party, as defined in Section 8‑13‑1300(26) or a committee, as defined in Section 8‑13‑1300(6).”

SECTION 49. Section 8‑13‑1340 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1340. (A) Except as provided in subsection~~s~~ (B) ~~and (E)~~, a candidate or public official shall not make a contribution to another candidate or make an independent expenditure on behalf of another candidate or public official from the candidate’s or public official’s campaign account or through a committee, except legislative caucus committees, directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained, or controlled by the candidate or public official. For purposes of this section only, candidate includes candidates within the meaning of 431(2) of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

(B) This section does not prohibit a candidate from:

(1) making a contribution from the candidate’s own personal funds on behalf of the candidate’s candidacy or to another candidate for a different office; or

(2) providing the candidate’s surplus funds or material assets upon final disbursement to a legislative caucus committee or party committee in accordance with the procedures for the final disbursement of a candidate under Section 8‑13‑1370 of this article.

(C) ~~Assets or funds which are the proceeds of a campaign contribution and which are held by or under the control of a public official or a candidate for public office on January 1, 1992, are considered to be funds held by a candidate and subject to subsection (A).~~

~~(D)~~ A committee is considered to be directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained, or controlled by a candidate or public official if any of the following are applicable:

(1) the candidate or public official, or an agent of either, has signature authority on the committee’s checks;

(2) funds contributed or disbursed by the committee are authorized or approved by the candidate or public official;

(3) the candidate or public official is clearly identified on either the stationery or letterhead of the committee;

(4) the candidate or public official signs solicitation letters or other correspondence on behalf of the entity;

(5) the candidate, public official, or his campaign staff, office staff, or immediate family members, or any other agent of either, has the authority to approve, alter, or veto the committee’s solicitations, contributions, donations, disbursements, or contracts to make disbursements; or

(6) the committee pays for travel by the candidate or public official, his campaign staff or office staff, or any other agent of the candidate or public official, in excess of one hundred dollars per calendar year.

~~(E)~~ ~~The provisions of subsection (A) do not apply to a committee directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained, or controlled by a candidate or public official if the candidate or public official directly or indirectly establishes, finances, maintains, or controls only one committee in addition to any committee formed by the candidate or public official to solely promote his own candidacy and one legislative caucus committee.~~

~~(F)~~ ~~No committee operating under the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1340(E) may:~~

~~(1)~~ ~~solicit or accept a contribution from a registered lobbyist if that lobbyist engages in lobbying the public office or public body for which the candidate is seeking election; or~~

~~(2)~~ ~~transfer anything of value to any other committee except as a contribution under the limitations of Section 8‑13‑1314(A) or the dissolution provisions of Section 8‑13‑1370.~~”

SECTION 50. Section 8‑13‑1344(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B)(1) A person may not solicit from a candidate, committee, political party, or other person, money or other property as a condition or consideration for an endorsement, article, or other communication in the news media promoting or opposing a candidate, committee, or political party.

(2) A candidate, committee, or political party may not offer or give money or other property in consideration of an endorsement for the candidate, or for an article or other communication in the news media promoting or opposing a candidate, committee, or political party. This does not prohibit a candidate, committee, or political party from purchasing advertisements from a radio station, television station, wire service, or other bona fide news medium which in the ordinary course of business disseminates news, editorials, columns, other comments, or regularly published periodicals.”

SECTION 51. Section 8‑13‑1348(A) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 248 of 1991, is amended to read:

“(A)(1) ~~No~~ A candidate, committee, public official, or political party may not use campaign funds to defray personal expenses which are unrelated to the campaign or the office if the candidate is an officeholder nor may these funds be converted to personal use. The prohibition of this subsection does not extend to the incidental personal use of campaign materials or equipment nor to an expenditure used to defray any ordinary expenses incurred in connection with an individual’s duties as a holder of elective office.

(2) Campaign funds may not be used to pay penalties resulting from a criminal prosecution.

(B) The payment of reasonable and necessary travel expenses or for food or beverages consumed by the candidate or members of his immediate family while at, and in connection with, a political event are permitted.

(C)(1) An expenditure of more than twenty‑five dollars drawn upon a campaign account must be made by:

(a) a written instrument;

(b) debit card; or

(c) online transfers.

The campaign account must contain the name of the candidate or committee, and the expenditure must contain the name of the recipient. These expenditures must be reported pursuant to the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1308.

(2) Expenditures of twenty‑five dollars or less that are not made by a written instrument, debit card, or online transfer containing the name of the candidate or committee and the name of the recipient must be accounted for by a written receipt or written record.

(D) An expenditure may not be made that is clearly in excess of the fair market value of services, materials, facilities, or other things of value received in exchange.

(E) A candidate or a duly authorized officer of a committee may not withdraw more than one hundred dollars from the campaign account to establish or replenish a petty cash fund for the candidate or committee at any time, and at no time may the fund exceed one hundred dollars. Expenditures from the petty cash fund may be made only for office supplies, food, transportation expenses, and other necessities and may not exceed twenty‑five dollars for each expenditure.

SECTION 52. Section 8‑13‑1352 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1352. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 8‑13‑1350, a~~ A candidate may use or permit the use of contributions solicited for or received by the candidate to further the candidacy of the individual for an elective office other than the elective office for which the contributions were received if:

~~(1)~~(A) the person originally making the contribution gives written authorization for its use to further the candidacy of the individual for a specific office which is not the office for which the contribution was originally intended; and

~~(2)~~(B) the contribution is otherwise permitted by law.”

SECTION 53. Section 8‑13‑1356 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1356. (A) A person who becomes a candidate by filing a statement of intention of candidacy seeking nomination by political party primary or political party convention must electronically file a statement of economic interests for the preceding calendar year pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 prior to the close of filing for the particular office.

(B) A person who becomes a candidate by filing a petition for nomination must electronically file a statement of economic interests for the preceding calendar year pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 within fifteen days of submitting the petition pursuant to Section 7‑11‑70 or 7‑11‑71.

(C) A person who becomes a candidate for a county wide or less than county wide office pursuant to Section 7‑11‑15(A)(3) must electronically file a statement of economic interests for the preceding calendar year pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 prior to the close of filing for that particular office.

~~(C)~~(D) A person who becomes a write‑in candidate must electronically file a statement of economic interests for the preceding calendar year within twenty‑four hours of filing an initial campaign finance report pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1308(A) or before taking the oath of office, whichever occurs earlier.

~~(D)~~(E) A candidate who is not a public official otherwise filing a statement has the same disclosure requirements as a public official with the exception of reporting gifts.

~~(E)~~(F) The appropriate supervisory office shall assess a civil penalty pursuant to Section 8‑13‑1510 against a candidate who fails to timely file a statement of economic interests as required by this section.”

SECTION 54. Section 8‑13‑1360 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1360. ~~(A)~~ The State Ethics Commission shall develop a contribution and expenditure reporting form pursuant to Section 8‑13‑365 which must include:

~~(1)~~(A) a designation as a pre‑election or quarterly report and, if a pre‑election report, the election date;

~~(2)~~(B) the candidate’s name and address or, in the case of a committee, the name and address of the committee;

~~(3)~~(C) the balance of campaign accounts on hand at the beginning and at the close of the reporting period and the location of those campaign accounts;

~~(4)~~(D) the total amount of all contributions received during the reporting period; the total amount of contributions of one hundred dollars or less in the aggregate from one source received during the reporting period; and the name and address of each person contributing more than one hundred dollars in the aggregate during the reporting period, the date and amount of the contribution, and the year‑to‑date total for each contributor~~. Written promises or pledges to make a contribution must be reported separately in the same manner as other monetary contributions~~;

~~(5)~~(E) the total amount of all loans received during the reporting period and the total amount of loans for the year to date. The report also must include the date and amount of each loan from one source during the reporting period, the name and address of each maker or guarantor of each loan, the year‑to‑date total of each maker or guarantor, and the terms of the loan, including the interest rate, repayment terms, loan payments, and existing balances on each loan;

~~(6)~~(F) the date and amount of any in‑kind contributions of more than one hundred dollars in the aggregate by one person during the reporting period, and the contributor’s name, address, and year‑to‑date total;

~~(7)~~(G) the total amount of all refunds, rebates, interest, and other receipts not previously identified during the reporting period, and their year‑to‑date total; the total amount of other receipts received of one hundred dollars or less in the aggregate from one source during the reporting period; the date and amount of each refund, rebate, interest, or other receipt not previously identified of more than one hundred dollars in the aggregate from one source, the name and address and the year‑to‑date total for each source;

~~(8)~~(H) the aggregate total of all contributions, loans, and other receipts during the reporting period and the year‑to‑date total; the amount, date, and a brief description of each expenditure made during the reporting period, the name and address of the entity to which the expenditure was made, and the year‑to‑date total of expenditures to that entity. Credit card expenses and candidate reimbursements must be itemized so that the purpose and recipient of the expenditure are identified;

~~(9)~~(I) the total amount of all loans made during the reporting period and the year‑to‑date total. The report also must include the date and amount of each loan to one entity during the reporting period, the name and address of each recipient of the loan, and the terms of the loan, including the interest rate, repayment terms, purpose of the loan, the year‑to‑date total, and existing balances.

~~(B) A candidate or committee must disclose all information required on the form developed under this section.~~”

SECTION 55. Section 8‑13‑1364 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1364. The appropriate supervisory office must send ~~a notice~~ an electronic notice of obligation to report ~~and reporting forms by first class mail~~ no less than thirty days before the filing date for each reporting period to the e‑mail address provided by the candidate or committee. A candidate or committee is not relieved of reporting responsibilities if the notice ~~or forms are~~ is not sent or if the candidate or committee does not receive a notice ~~or forms~~.”

SECTION 56. Section 8‑13‑1372 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 8‑13‑1372 . (A) The appropriate supervisory office, in its discretion, may determine that errors or omissions on campaign reports are inadvertent and unintentional and not an effort to violate a requirement of this chapter and may be handled as technical violations which are not subject to the provisions of this chapter pertaining to ethical violations. ~~Technical violations must remain confidential unless requested to be made public by the candidate filing the report.~~ In lieu of all other penalties, the appropriate supervisory office may assess a technical violations penalty not to exceed fifty dollars.

(B) A violation other than an inadvertent or unintentional violation must be considered by the appropriate supervisory office for appropriate action.”

SECTION 57. Section 8‑13‑1310 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 58. Section 8‑13‑1350 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 59. Section 8‑13‑1358 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 60. Section 8‑13‑1362 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 61. Section 8‑13‑1366 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

PART VII

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 62. A committee prohibited pursuant to SECTION 49 of this act in existence on the effective date of this act must distribute all unexpended funds in the manner provided for in Section 8-13-1370(C).

SECTION 63. The General Assembly finds that all the provisions contained in this act relate to one subject as required by Section 17, Article III of the South Carolina Constitution in that each provision relates directly to or in conjunction with other sections to the subject of election reform as stated in the title. The General Assembly further finds that a common purpose or relationship exists among the sections, representing a potential plurality but not disunity of topics, notwithstanding that reasonable minds might differ in identifying more than one topic contained in this act.

SECTION 64. The provisions of this act are severable. If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, item, subitem, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of the act, the General Assembly hereby declaring that it would have passed each and every section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, item, subitem, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, items, subitems, sentences, clauses, phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective.

SECTION 65. The provisions of PART II (General Provisions), PART III (ETHICS COMMITTEES), PART IV (Rules of Conduct), PART V (Disclosure of Economic Interests), PART VI (Campaign Practices), and SECTIONS 62, 63, and 64 are effective upon the Governor's signature.

SECTION 66. The provisions of PART I (Lobbyists and Lobbyists Principals) of this act takes effect on April 1, 2015. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

The amendment was adopted.

**Recorded Vote**

Senators SHEHEEN, MALLOY and McELVEEN desired to be recorded as voting against the adoption of the amendment.

The question then was second reading of the Bill.

The "ayes" and "nays" were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

**Ayes 37; Nays 3**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campsen Cleary Courson

Cromer Davis Fair

Grooms Hayes Hembree

Hutto Jackson Kimpson

Leatherman Lourie Malloy

*Martin, Larry* Massey Matthews

McElveen McGill Nicholson

Peeler Pinckney Rankin

Reese Scott Setzler

Shealy Sheheen Thurmond

Turner Verdin Williams

Young

**Total--37**

**NAYS**

Bright Bryant Corbin

**Total--3**

The Bill was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

**Statement by Senators CROMER, LARRY MARTIN**

**PEELER, COURSON and HAYES**

We would prefer an independent investigation agency handle complaints against House and Senate members, but we still voted for this Bill because it makes much needed changes to our ethics laws.

**Statement by Senator CAMPSEN**

I have been a big proponent of an independent investigative body, such as a reconstituted State Ethics Commission, conducting independent investigations of members of the General Assembly. In fact, I authored the amendment that was before the Senate to do just that.

Unfortunately, after several weeks of debate, discussion and negotiation on my amendment, it became clear that we did not have the votes to create an independent investigative body for legislators. Nevertheless there still were many good things in the Bill worth enacting, such as income disclosure for lawmakers, elimination of leadership PAC’s, strengthening recusal rules, and regulation of independent expenditures.

I, therefore, voted, for the HAYES amendment on the Ethics Bill because, while not implementing an independent investigative process, it does embody other meaningful reforms that could be enacted. It is a matter of accomplishing the possible, rather than insisting upon the ideal that has proven to be politically impossible.

**Expression of Personal Interest**

Senator PEELER rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

**Remarks by Senator PEELER**

Members of the Senate. If I can ask the reporter Adam Beam to put his pencil down just a minute and stand up: I would like for you to stand at the rail. Members of the Senate, I don’t know if you all have heard, Adam Beam, reporter for The State paper: but today is his last day of covering the Senate. He has taken a job with the Associated Press in Kentucky and I just wanted to point that out. We are going to miss you Adam. It is kind of timely, when I look at Adam, it shows my age. He kind of looks like an Olympic snow boarder. He does not look like a reporter to me. I do want to express my appreciation of the job you’ve done covering us and we are going to miss you, Adam. Members of the Senate, would you join me in a round of applause of thanks.

On motion of Senator SETZLER, with unanimous consent, the remarks of Senator PEELER were ordered printed in the Journal.

**LOCAL APPOINTMENT**

**Confirmation**

Having received a favorable report from the Senate, the following appointment was confirmed in open session:

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, with the term to commence June 1, 2013, and to expire June 1, 2019

1st Congressional District:

Warren L. Helm, 3105 Yatchman Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 *VICE* Dan P. Gray

**MOTION ADOPTED**

On motion of Senator HEMBREE, with unanimous consent, the Senate stood adjourned out of respect to the memory of Mr. Ronald McManus of North Myrtle Beach, S.C. Ron was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. He was the moving force behind the “Jim Candle Artificial Reef” off the Horry County coast, which is the largest artificial reef in South Carolina.

and

**MOTION ADOPTED**

On motion of Senator FAIR, with unanimous consent, the Senate stood adjourned out of respect to the memory of Councilman Dan Rawls of Greenville, S.C. Dan was a retired homebuilder who won the National Housing Endowment Builder Achievement Award for Outstanding Service in 2007. He was appointed Chairman of the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority by former Governor Hodges from 2001-2006. Councilman Rawls was currently serving District 26 in Greenville County. He helped establish the Shoeless Joe Jackson Museum, worked with the Ronald McDonald House and served as president of Piedmont Lions Club. Mr. Rawls was a loving husband, devoted father and doting grandfather.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:16 P.M., on motion of Senator WILLIAMS, the Senate adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11:00 A.M. under the provisions of Rule 1 for the purpose of taking up local matters and uncontested matters which have previously received unanimous consent to be taken up.

**Recorded Vote**

Senators BRYANT, BRIGHT and DAVIS desired to be recorded as voting against the motion to adjourn.

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