**Wednesday, February 7, 2018**

**(Statewide Session)**

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

 The Senate assembled at 11:45 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:

Ezekiel 47:6

 God spoke to Ezekiel saying: “Mortal, have you seen this? Then he led Ezekiel back along the bank of the river.”

 Let us pray. Gracious God, we marvel at the beauty of Your creation and the water that gives life to all living creatures. Like Ezekiel, we need to walk along the banks of a river and experience the serenity and wonder of a stream or river rushing towards the sea. These waterways have been enjoyed for thousands of years by all the inhabitants of this land.

 May the Senators here continue their resolve to preserve and protect this state treasure for the enjoyment of generations to come. We rejoice, O God, that we live in a country where our elective officials can truly make a difference in the preservation of our natural resources. We offer this prayer of thanksgiving in Your holy name, Amen.

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

**Point of Quorum**

 At 11:51 A.M., Senator LEATHERMAN made the point that a quorum was not present. It was ascertained that a quorum was not present.

**Call of the Senate**

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

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campbell Campsen Cash

Corbin Davis Gambrell

Goldfinch Gregory Hutto

Johnson Leatherman Malloy

Martin Massey *Matthews, John*

*Matthews, Margie* McElveen McLeod

Peeler Rankin Rice

Sabb Setzler Shealy

Timmons Turner Williams

Young

 A quorum being present, the Senate resumed.

**Motion Adopted**

 On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate agreed that the Senate would reconvene 30 minutes after the conclusion of the Joint Assembly.

**RECESS**

 At 11:55 A.M., on motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate receded from business for the purpose of attending the Joint Assembly.

**JOINT ASSEMBLY**

**Elections**

 At 12:00 Noon, the Senate appeared in the Hall of the House.

 The PRESIDENT of the Senate called the Joint Assembly to order and announced that it had convened under the terms of a Concurrent Resolution adopted by both Houses.

 S. 780 -- Senators Rankin, Young, Sabb, Peeler, Alexander, Scott and Verdin: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO FIX NOON ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018, AS THE TIME TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, SEAT 3, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JULY 31, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, SEAT 8, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HIS ELECTION TO THE SUPREME COURT, SEAT 1, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2018, AND THE SUBSEQUENT FULL TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2024; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HIS RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2018, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE A NEW TERM OF THAT OFFICE, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2024; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 4, UPON HIS ELECTION TO THE COURT OF APPEALS, SEAT 9, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2022; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, UPON HIS RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2017, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2022; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, AT‑LARGE, SEAT 9, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2021; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HER RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2018, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THAT OFFICE, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, UPON HIS ELECTION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT, AT‑LARGE, SEAT 1, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL FILL THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2022; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HIS RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2017, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2020; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 1, UPON HIS RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2017, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HER RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE JULY 8, 2017, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE FAMILY COURT, TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SEAT 2, UPON HIS RETIREMENT ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018, AND THE SUCCESSOR WILL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019; TO ELECT A SUCCESSOR TO A CERTAIN JUDGE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT, SEAT 5, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; AND AS THE DATE TO MEET IN JOINT SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY, FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT 5, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018; TO ELECT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, MEDICAL SEAT, FOR A TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2020; TO ELECT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, FOR A TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2020; AND TO ELECT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WINTHROP UNIVERSITY, FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, SEAT 4, FOR A TERM WHICH WILL EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2022.

**Election of a Justice, Supreme Court, Seat 3**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Justice, Supreme Court, Seat 3.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable John W. Kittredge had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable John W. Kittredge in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable John W. Kittredge was elected to the position Justice, Supreme Court, Seat 3 for the term to expire July 31, 2028.

**Election of a Court of Appeals Judge, Seat 8**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Court of Appeals, Seat 8.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Thomas E. Huff had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Thomas E. Huff in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Thomas E. Huff was elected to the position of Judge, Court of Appeals, Seat 8 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Kristi Fisher Curtis, Ryan Kirk Griffin and Timothy Ward Murphy had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of Timothy Ward Murphy and Ryan Kirk Griffin were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Kristi Fisher Curtis in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Kristi Fisher Curtis was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2018, and the subsequent full term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Roger E. Henderson had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Roger E. Henderson in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Roger E. Henderson was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2, for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable L. Casey Manning had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable L. Casey Manning in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable L. Casey Manning was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Grace Gilchrist Knie had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Grace Gilchrist Knie in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Grace Gilchrist Knie was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 .

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Eugene Cannon Griffith, Jr. had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Eugene Cannon Griffith, Jr. in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Eugene Cannon Griffith, Jr. was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable R. Scott Sprouse had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable R. Scott Sprouse in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable R. Scott Sprouse was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable William Paul Keesley had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable William Paul Keesley in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable William Paul Keesley was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Kyliene Lee Keesley, Robert Michael Madsen and Walton J. McLeod IV had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of Kyliene Lee Keesley and Robert Michael Madsen were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Walton J. McLeod IV in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Walton J. McLeod IV was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Michael Nettles had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Michael Nettles in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Michael Nettles was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Letitia Hamilton Verdin had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Letitia Hamilton Verdin in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Letitia Hamilton Verdin was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Jr., John (Jack) Patrick Riordan and the Honorable Jessica Ann Salvini had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of John (Jack) Patrick Riordan and the Honorable Jessica Ann Salvini were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Jr. in nomination, moved that the nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Jr. was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4 for the term to expire June 30, 2022.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Perry McPherson Buckner III had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Perry McPherson Buckner III in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Perry McPherson Buckner III was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2024.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, 16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Bryson John Barrowclough, Lisa G. Collins and William Angus McKinnon had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the name of Bryson John Barrowclough was withdrawn from consideration.

 The Reading Clerk of the Senate called the roll of the Senate, and the Senators voted *viva voce* as their names were called.

 The following named Senator voted for Collins:

Gregory

**Total--1**

 The following named Senators voted for McKinnon:

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campbell Campsen Cash

Climer Corbin Cromer

Davis Fanning Gambrell

Goldfinch Grooms Hembree

Hutto Jackson Johnson

Kimpson Leatherman Malloy

Martin Massey *Matthews, John*

*Matthews, Margie* McElveen Nicholson

Peeler Rankin Reese

Rice Sabb Senn

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Talley Timmons Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--42**

 On the motion of Rep. Rutherford, with unanimous consent, the members of the House voted by electronic roll call.

 The following named Representatives voted for Collins:

Anthony Brawley Cobb-Hunter

Davis Douglas Govan

Hayes Henderson-Myers Henegan

Hill Howard King

Kirby Mack McEachern

Norrell Pendarvis Ridgeway

M. Rivers Thigpen

**Total--20**

 The following named Representatives voted for McKinnon:

Allison Arrington Atkinson

Bales Ballentine Bamberg

Bannister Bennett Bernstein

Blackwell Bowers Bradley

Brown Bryant Burns

Caskey Chumley Clary

Clemmons Cogswell Collins

Crawford Crosby Daning

Delleney Dillard Duckworth

Elliott Erickson Felder

Finlay Forrest Forrester

Fry Funderburk Gagnon

Gilliard Hamilton Hardee

Hart Henderson Herbkersman

Hewitt Hiott Hixon

Hosey Huggins Jefferson

Johnson Jordan Knight

Loftis Long Lowe

Lucas Mace Magnuson

Martin McCoy McCravy

McGinnis McKnight D. C. Moss

V. S. Moss B. Newton W. Newton

Ott Pitts Putnam

S. Rivers Robinson-Simpson Rutherford

Sandifer Simrill G. M. Smith

G. R. Smith Sottile Spires

Stavrinakis Tallon Taylor

Thayer Toole Trantham

Weeks West Wheeler

White Whitmire Williams

Young Yow

**Total--92**

**RECAPITULATION**

Total number of Senators voting 43

Total number of Representatives voting 112

Grand Total 155

Necessary to a choice 78

Of which Collins received 21

Of which McKinnon received 134

Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable William Angus McKinnon was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, 16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2022.

**Election of a Circuit Court Judge, At-Large, Seat 9**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, at-large, Seat 9.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Jerome P. Askins III, the Honorable Jennifer Blanchard McCoy and Grady L. Patterson III had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of Grady L. Patterson III and Jerome P. Askins III were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Jennifer Blanchard McCoy in nomination, moved that the nominations be closed and, asked unanimous consent that the vote be taken by acclamation.

 Senator MARTIN objected and a roll call was ordered.

 The Reading Clerk of the Senate called the roll of the Senate, and the Senators voted *viva voce* as their names were called.

 The following named Senators voted in the affirmative:

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campbell Campsen Climer

Corbin Cromer Davis

Fanning Gambrell Goldfinch

Gregory Grooms Hembree

Hutto Jackson Johnson

Kimpson Leatherman Malloy

Massey *Matthews, John Matthews, Margie*

McElveen Nicholson Peeler

Rankin Reese Rice

Sabb Scott Senn

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Talley Timmons Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--42**

 The following named Senator voted in the negative:

Martin

**Total--1**

 On the motion of Rep. Rutherford, with unanimous consent, the members of the House voted by electronic roll call.

 The following named Representatives voted in the affirmative:

Alexander Anthony Arrington

Atkinson Atwater Bales

Ballentine Bamberg Bannister

Bennett Bernstein Blackwell

Bowers Bradley Brawley

Brown Bryant Clary

Clemmons Clyburn Cobb-Hunter

Cogswell Cole Crawford

Crosby Daning Davis

Delleney Dillard Douglas

Duckworth Elliott Erickson

Forrest Forrester Fry

Funderburk Gagnon Gilliard

Govan Hamilton Hardee

Hart Hayes Henderson

Henderson-Myers Henegan Herbkersman

Hewitt Hiott Hixon

Hosey Howard Huggins

Jefferson Johnson Jordan

King Kirby Knight

Lowe Lucas Mace

Mack Martin McCravy

McEachern McGinnis McKnight

V. S. Moss Murphy B. Newton

W. Newton Norrell Ott

Parks Pendarvis Pitts

Pope Putnam Ridgeway

M. Rivers S. Rivers Robinson-Simpson

Rutherford Simrill G. M. Smith

G. R. Smith Sottile Spires

Stavrinakis Taylor Thayer

Thigpen Toole Trantham

Weeks West Wheeler

Williams Young Yow

**Total--102**

**RECAPITULATION**

Total number of Senators voting 43

Total number of Representatives voting 102

Grand Total 145

Necessary to a choice 73

Ayes 144

Nays 1

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Jennifer Blanchard McCoy was elected to the position of Judge, Circuit Court, at-large, Seat 9 for the term to expire June 30, 2021.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Angela W. Abstance had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Angela W. Abstance in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Angela W. Abstance was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2019.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Thomas Murray Bultman, Edgar Robert Donald Jr. and Ernest Joseph Jarrett had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of Edgar Robert Donald Jr. and Ernest Joseph Jarrett were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Thomas Murray Bultman in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Thomas Murray Bultman was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2022.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Catherine S. Hendrix and Debra A. Matthews had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the name of Catherine S. Hendrix was withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Debra A. Matthews in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Debra A. Matthews was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2020.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Bryan C. Able, Ashley Phillips Case and Matthew Price Turner had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of the Honorable Bryan C. Able and Ashley Phillips Case were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Matthew Price Turner in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Matthew Price Turner was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1 for the term to expire June 30, 2019.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that Huntley Smith Crouch had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of Huntley Smith Crouch in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Huntley Smith Crouch was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2019.

**Election of a Family Court Judge, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect

a successor to the position of Judge, Family Court, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that FitzLee Howard McEachin, Stuart Wesley Snow, Sr. and the Honorable Elizabeth Biggerstaff York had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 On motion of Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. the names of Stuart Wesley Snow, Sr. and the Honorable Elizabeth Biggerstaff York were withdrawn from consideration.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of FitzLee Howard McEachin in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable FitzLee Howard McEachin was elected to the position of Judge, Family Court, 12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2 for the term to expire June 30, 2019.

**Election of a Administrative Law Court Judge, Seat 5**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to the position of Judge, Administrative Law Court, Seat 5.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission, indicated that the Honorable Shirley Canty Robinson had been screened and found qualified to serve.

 Representative G. Murrell Smith, Jr. placed the name of the Honorable Shirley Canty Robinson in nomination, moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Shirley Canty Robinson was elected to the position of Judge, Administrative Law Court, Seat 5 for the term to expire June 30, 2023.

 Immediately following the Judicial Elections, the Senate proceeded to the elections of College and University Boards.

**Election to the Board of Trustees for**

 **Francis Marion University, 5th Congressional District, Seat 5**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to a position on the Board of Trustees for Francis Marion University, 5th Congressional District, Seat 5.

 Senator PEELER, Chairman of the Committee to Screen Candidates for State Colleges and Universities, indicated that H. Paul Dove, Jr. had been screened and found qualified to serve and placed his name in nomination.

 Senator PEELER moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable H. Paul Dove, Jr. was elected to a position on the Board of Trustees for Francis Marion University, 5th Congressional District, Seat 5 for the term to expire June 30, 2018.

**Election to the Board of Trustees for the**

**Medical University of South Carolina,**

**7th Congressional District, Medical Seat**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to a lay position on the Board of Trustees for the Medical University of South Carolina, 7th Congressional District, Medical Seat.

 Senator PEELER, Chairman of the Committee to Screen Candidates for State Colleges and Universities, indicated that Paul T. Davis and Gerald E. Harmon had been screened and found qualified to serve and placed their names in nomination.

 On motion of Senator PEELER, the name of Gerald E. Harmon was withdrawn from consideration.

 Senator PEELER moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Paul T. Davis was elected to a medical position on the Board of Trustees for Medical University of South Carolina, 7th Congressional District, Medical Seat for the term to expire June 30, 2020.

**Election to the Board of Trustees for the**

**University of South Carolina, 14th Judicial Circuit**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect a successor to a position on the Board of Trustees for the University of South Carolina, 14th Judicial Circuit.

 Senator PEELER, Chairman of the Committee to Screen Candidates for State Colleges and Universities, indicated that Kent M. Eddy, Frampton L. Harper, Rose Buyck Newton and H. Timberlake (Tim) Pearce had been screened and found qualified to serve and placed their names in nomination.

 On motion of Senator PEELER, the names of Frampton L. Harper and H. Timberlake (Tim) Pearce were withdrawn from consideration.

 The Reading Clerk of the Senate called the roll of the Senate, and the Senators voted *viva voce* as their names were called.

 The following named Senators voted for Eddy:

**Total--0**

 The following named Senators voted for Newton:

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campbell Campsen Cash

Climer Corbin Cromer

Davis Fanning Gambrell

Goldfinch Hembree Hutto

Jackson Johnson Kimpson

Leatherman Malloy Massey

*Matthews, John* McElveen Nicholson

Peeler Rankin Reese

Rice Sabb Scott

Senn Setzler Shealy

Sheheen Talley Timmons

Turner Verdin Williams

Young

**Total--40**

 The following named Senator voted present:

Martin

**Total--1**

 On the motion of Rep. Rutherford, with unanimous consent, the members of the House voted by electronic roll call.

 The following named Representatives voted for Eddy:

**Total--0**

 The following named Representatives voted for Newton:

Alexander Anthony Arrington

Atkinson Atwater Bales

Ballentine Bamberg Bannister

Bennett Bernstein Blackwell

Bowers Bradley Brawley

Brown Caskey Clary

Clemmons Clyburn Cobb-Hunter

Cogswell Cole Collins

Crawford Crosby Daning

Davis Delleney Dillard

Douglas Duckworth Elliott

Erickson Forrest Fry

Funderburk Hamilton Hardee

Hayes Henderson Henderson-Myers

Henegan Herbkersman Hewitt

Hiott Hixon Hosey

Huggins Jefferson Johnson

Jordan King Kirby

Lowe Lucas Mace

Martin McCoy McCravy

McEachern McGinnis McKnight

D. C. Moss V. S. Moss Murphy

B. Newton Norrell Ott

Parks Pendarvis Pitts

Pope Ridgeway M. Rivers

S. Rivers Robinson-Simpson Rutherford

Simrill G. M. Smith G. R. Smith

Sottile Spires Stavrinakis

Taylor Thigpen Toole

Trantham Weeks West

Wheeler Whitmire Williams

Willis Young Yow

**Total--96**

**RECAPITULATION**

Total number of Senators voting 40

Total number of Representatives voting 96

Grand Total 136

Necessary to a choice 69

Of which Eddy received 0

Of which Newton received 136

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Rose Buyck Newton was elected to a position on the Board of Trustees for the University of South Carolina, 14th Judicial Circuit for the term to expire June 30, 2020.

**Election to the Board of Trustees for**

**Winthrop University, 4th Congressional District, Seat 4**

 The PRESIDENT announced that nominations were in order to elect successors to a position on the Board of Trustees for Winthrop University, 4th Congressional District, Seat 4.

 Senator PEELER, Chairman of the Committee to Screen Candidates for State Colleges and Universities, indicated that Edward R. Driggers and Kristen Gebhart Magee had been screened and found qualified to serve and placed their names in nomination.

 On motion of Senator PEELER, the name of Kristen Gebhart Magee was withdrawn from consideration.

 Senator PEELER moved that nominations be closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominees.

 Whereupon, the PRESIDENT announced that the Honorable Edward R. Driggers was elected to a position on the Board of Trustees for Winthrop University, 4th Congressional District, Seat 4 for the term to expire June 20, 2022.

 The purposes of the Joint Assembly having been accomplished, the PRESIDENT declared it adjourned, whereupon the Senate returned to its Chamber and was called to order by the PRESIDENT.

**RECESS**

 At 1:00 P.M., on motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate receded from business.

 At 1:47 P.M., the Senate resumed.

**Point of Quorum**

 At 1:48 P.M., Senator MALLOY made the point that a quorum was not present. It was ascertained that a quorum was not present.

**Call of the Senate**

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

Alexander Allen Campbell

Cash Climer Corbin

Cromer Davis Fanning

Gambrell Goldfinch Gregory

Grooms Hembree Hutto

Johnson Kimpson Leatherman

Malloy Martin Massey

*Matthews, Margie* McElveen McLeod

Nicholson Peeler Rankin

Rice Sabb Senn

Setzler Shealy Sheheen

Talley Timmons Verdin

Williams Young

 A quorum being present, the Senate resumed.

**MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR**

The following appointments were transmitted by the Honorable Henry Dargan McMaster:

**Statewide Appointments**

Reappointment, South Carolina State Board of Nursing, with the term to commence December 31, 2017, and to expire December 31, 2021

Public Member:

Neil B. Lipsitz, 2612 Harvey Rd., Beaufort, SC 29902

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Board of Nursing, with the term to commence December 31, 2017, and to expire December 31, 2021

4th Congressional District:

Sallie Beth Todd, 6 Sparrow Point Court, Simpsonville, SC 29680-6643 *VICE* Carol Ann Moody

Referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

**Local Appointment**

Initial Appointment, Edgefield County Judge of Probate, with the term to commence August 4, 2017, and to expire November 6, 2018

George W. Anderson, 328 Wigfall Street, Edgefield, SC 29824 *VICE* Robert E. Peeler

**Doctor of the Day**

 Senator SCOTT introduced Dr. Helmut Albrecht of Columbia, S.C., Doctor of the Day.

**Leave of Absence**

 At 3:30 P.M., Senator CAMPBELL requested a leave of absence for Senator MARTIN for the day.

**Expression of Personal Interest**

 Senator DAVIS rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

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

S. 764 Sen. Fanning

S. 765 Sen. Fanning

S. 869 Sens. Jackson and Hutto

S. 872 Sen. Martin

S. 909 Sens. Young, Talley, Scott, McLeod, Setzler, J. Matthews,

 Allen

S. 931 Sen. Fanning

S. 954 Sen. Fanning

S. 959 Sen. Hembree

**RECOMMITTED**

S. 323 -- Senators Campbell, Turner, Talley, Bennett, Climer, Nicholson, Cromer, Reese, Grooms, Hembree, Verdin, Massey, Alexander, Williams, Johnson, Gambrell, Sabb, Young, Shealy, Scott, Corbin and Jackson: A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT, BY ADDING CHAPTER 24, TO PROVIDE THAT MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR NUISANCE SUITS.

On motion of Senator MALLOY, the Bill was recommitted to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry.

**Motion Adopted**

 On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, with unanimous consent, the Senate agreed to go into Executive Session prior to adjournment.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

 The following were introduced:

 S. 969 -- Senator Cromer: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 31-13-100 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SHALL INFORM THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY BEFORE EVALUATING AN APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL HOUSING TAX CREDIT AND THE APPLICABLE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY SHALL APPOINT NINE MEMBERS TO A LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TO VOTE WITH THE BOARD ON THE APPLICATION.

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 Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry.

 S. 970 -- Senators Kimpson and Malloy: A BILL TO AMEND ARTICLE 15, CHAPTER 15, TITLE 58 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION'S REGULATION OF RAILROAD CROSSINGS, BY ADDING SECTION 58-17-1555, TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS NOT CONDUCIVE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY FOR CERTAIN RAILROAD COMPANIES TO OPERATE LOCOMOTIVES IN THIS STATE THAT HAVE NOT BEEN EQUIPPED WITH POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL TECHNOLOGY; TO PROVIDE FOR FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS SECTION; AND TO PROVIDE THAT FINES COLLECTED SHALL BE USED TO FUND RAILROAD SAFETY INSPECTIONS AND PROGRAMS.

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 Senator KIMPSON spoke on the Bill.

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

 S. 971 -- Fish, Game and Forestry Committee: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION - BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS, RELATING TO LICENSURE FEES, DESIGNATED AS REGULATION DOCUMENT NUMBER 4769, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 23, TITLE 1 OF THE 1976 CODE.

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 Read the first time and ordered placed on the Calendar without reference.

 S. 972 -- Fish, Game and Forestry Committee: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, RELATING TO SEASONS, LIMITS, METHODS OF TAKE AND SPECIAL USE RESTRICTIONS ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, DESIGNATED AS REGULATION DOCUMENT NUMBER 4799, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 23, TITLE 1 OF THE 1976 CODE.

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 Read the first time and ordered placed on the Calendar without reference.

 S. 973 -- Senator Young: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE THIRD FULL WEEK OF APRIL 2018 AS "SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK", TO RAISE AWARENESS REGARDING SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME, AND TO COMMEND THE HOSPITALS, CHILD CARE COUNCILS, SCHOOLS, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT EDUCATE PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ON HOW TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM ABUSE.

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 The Concurrent Resolution was introduced and ordered placed on the Calendar without reference.

 S. 974 -- Senators J. Matthews and Hutto: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IN THE CITY OF ORANGEBURG THAT CROSSES CHESTNUT STREET THE "DR. EMILY ENGLAND CLYBURN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE" AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS LOCATION CONTAINING THIS DESIGNATION.

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

 S. 975 -- Senator Shealy: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY 2018 AS "AMERICAN HEART MONTH" IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO PROMOTE HEART DISEASE AWARENESS TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

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 The Senate Resolution was introduced and referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

 S. 976 -- Senator Fanning: A JOINT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO THE RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE, BY ADDING SECTION 13 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A PROCEDURE BY WHICH A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY FINANCE HIS CAMPAIGN WITH PUBLIC FUNDS AS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY DETERMINE.

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

 S. 977 -- Senator Fanning: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 16 TO TITLE 8 SO AS TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE ACT", TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE BY WHICH CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO AGREE TO LIMITATIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO RECEIVE A PREDETERMINED AMOUNT OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGNS AND TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURES OF ALL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANDIDATES FOR STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

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

 S. 978 -- Senator Fanning: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12-6-3360, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE JOB TAX CREDIT, SO AS TO PROVIDE A HIGHER CREDIT AMOUNT IN CERTAIN QUALIFYING COUNTIES.

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

 S. 979 -- Senators Talley and Scott: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 56-1-210(A) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE, TO PROVIDE THAT, WHEN A PERSON WHO IS SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER RENEWS HIS LICENSE, THE LICENSE SHALL EXPIRE ON THE DATE RECOMMENDED BY THE LICENSED OPHTHALMOLOGIST OR OPTOMETRIST CONDUCTING THE VISION SCREENING OR FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS ISSUED, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56-1-220 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO VISION SCREENINGS REQUIRED FOR DRIVER'S LICENSES, TO REQUIRE A VISION SCREENING TO RECEIVE AN INITIAL LICENSE AND A RENEWED LICENSE, AND TO REQUIRE THE SCREENING OPHTHALMOLOGIST OR OPTOMETRIST TO CERTIFY THAT MINIMUM STANDARDS HAVE BEEN MET.

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

 S. 980 -- Senators McLeod and Rice: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 2-1-105 SO AS TO PROVIDE AFTER JULY 1, 2018, A PERSON MAY NOT BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED TO AN OFFICE THAT IS FILLED BY ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF THAT PERSON IS AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF A SITTING MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OR A FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHOSE MOST RECENT TERM OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICE ENDED LESS THAN ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT OF THE OFFICE IN QUESTION.

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

 H. 4612 -- Reps. Sandifer and Toole: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40-11-262 SO AS TO PROVIDE APPLICANTS FOR GENERAL AND MECHANICAL LICENSURE SUBJECT TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT REQUIREMENTS MAY INSTEAD PROVIDE CERTAIN SURETY BONDS, AND TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE SURETY BONDS.

 Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry.

 H. 4654 -- Reps. Sandifer and Spires: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 38-43-100, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL AND AGENCY INSURANCE PRODUCERS, SO AS TO REQUIRE AN APPLICANT TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE SET OF FINGERPRINTS WITH THE APPLICATION, TO PROVIDE THAT FAILURE TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE SET OF FINGERPRINTS CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION, AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS TO THE FINGERPRINTING REQUIREMENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

 Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance.

 H. 4655 -- Reps. Sandifer and Spires: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA INSURANCE DATA SECURITY ACT" BY ADDING CHAPTER 99 TO TITLE 38 SO AS TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS; TO REQUIRE A LICENSEE TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND MAINTAIN A COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM BASED ON THE LICENSEE'S RISK ASSESSMENT AND TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECURITY PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSEE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, IF APPLICABLE, TO REQUIRE A LICENSEE TO MONITOR THE SECURITY PROGRAM AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS IF NECESSARY, TO PROVIDE THAT THE LICENSEE MUST ESTABLISH AN INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN AND TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN, TO REQUIRE A LICENSEE TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE ANNUALLY; TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSEE IN THE EVENT OF A CYBERSECURITY EVENT; TO REQUIRE A LICENSEE TO NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR OF CERTAIN INFORMATION IN THE EVENT OF A CYBERSECURITY EVENT; TO GRANT THE DIRECTOR THE POWER AND AUTHORITY TO EXAMINE AND INVESTIGATE A LICENSEE; TO PROVIDE THAT DOCUMENTS, MATERIALS, OR OTHER INFORMATION IN THE CONTROL OR POSSESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT MUST BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL AND TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO SHARE OR RECEIVE CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; TO PROVIDE EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS.

 Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance.

 H. 4827 -- Rep. Henderson: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEIZURE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS STUDY COMMITTEE TO SUBMIT ITS WRITTEN REPORT FROM JANUARY 31, 2018, TO JANUARY 31, 2019.

 Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

 H. 4862 -- Reps. Taylor, Blackwell, Clyburn, Hixon and Young: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. TERRY MICHALSKE, DIRECTOR OF SAVANNAH RIVER NATIONAL LABORATORY, AS HE LEAVES AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

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

 H. 4863 -- Reps. Clemmons and Rutherford: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PRESIDENT JIMMY MORALES.

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

 H. 4864 -- Reps. Clemmons, Rutherford, Alexander, Allison, Anderson, Anthony, Arrington, Atkinson, Atwater, Bales, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bennett, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bowers, Bradley, Brawley, Brown, Bryant, Burns, Caskey, Chumley, Clary, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Cogswell, Cole, Collins, Crawford, Crosby, Daning, Davis, Delleney, Dillard, Douglas, Duckworth, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Finlay, Forrest, Forrester, Fry, Funderburk, Gagnon, Gilliard, Govan, Hamilton, Hardee, Hart, Hayes, Henderson, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Huggins, Jefferson, Johnson, Jordan, King, Kirby, Knight, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, Mace, Mack, Magnuson, Martin, McCoy, McCravy, McEachern, McGinnis, McKnight, D. C. Moss, V. S. Moss, Murphy, B. Newton, W. Newton, Norrell, Ott, Parks, Pendarvis, Pitts, Pope, Putnam, Ridgeway, M. Rivers, S. Rivers, Robinson-Simpson, Sandifer, Simrill, G. M. Smith, G. R. Smith, J. E. Smith, Sottile, Spires, Stavrinakis, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Toole, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, Williams, Willis, Young and Yow: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR CONGRESSMAN FIDEL REYES LEE AND COMMEND HIM FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE THROUGH THE FORMATION OF THE GUATEMALA-ISRAEL INTER PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP.

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

 H. 4867 -- Reps. Huggins, Alexander, Allison, Anderson, Anthony, Arrington, Atkinson, Atwater, Bales, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bennett, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bowers, Bradley, Brawley, Brown, Bryant, Burns, Caskey, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Cogswell, Cole, Collins, Crawford, Crosby, Daning, Davis, Delleney, Dillard, Douglas, Duckworth, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Finlay, Forrest, Forrester, Fry, Funderburk, Gagnon, Gilliard, Govan, Hamilton, Hardee, Hart, Hayes, Henderson, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Jordan, King, Kirby, Knight, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, Mace, Mack, Magnuson, Martin, McCoy, McCravy, McEachern, McGinnis, McKnight, D. C. Moss, V. S. Moss, Murphy, B. Newton, W. Newton, Norrell, Ott, Parks, Pendarvis, Pitts, Pope, Putnam, Ridgeway, M. Rivers, S. Rivers, Robinson-Simpson, Rutherford, Sandifer, Simrill, G. M. Smith, G. R. Smith, J. E. Smith, Sottile, Spires, Stavrinakis, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Toole, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, Williams, Willis, Young and Yow: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. L. CAREY HITE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER SOME FOUR DECADES OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS A PHYSICIAN, AND TO WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

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

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

 Senator LEATHERMAN from the Committee on Finance submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

 S. 866 -- Senators Cromer, Scott, Reese, Verdin, J. Matthews and Nicholson: A BILL TO PROVIDE THAT TAX CREDITS FOR THE PURCHASE OF GEOTHERMAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT SHALL BE REPEALED ON JANUARY 1, 2029.

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

 Senator CAMPSEN from the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

 S. 913 -- Senator Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 50-9-740(B) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO YOUTH HUNTING DAYS, TO PROVIDE THAT A LICENSE OR TAG REQUIRED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 9, TITLE 50 IS WAIVED FOR A YOUTH HUNTER ON A YOUTH HUNTING DAY.

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

 Senator LEATHERMAN from the Committee on Finance submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

 S. 916 -- Senator Cromer: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 48‑52‑870, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE ENERGY EFFICIENT MANUFACTURED HOMES INCENTIVE PROGRAM, SO AS TO EXTEND THE PROGRAM TEN ADDITIONAL YEARS.

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

 Senator LEATHERMAN from the Committee on Finance submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

 S. 917 -- Senator Kimpson: A BILL TO AMEND SECTIONS 6‑1‑530, 6‑1‑730, AND 6‑4‑10, ALL AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, ALL RELATING TO THE EXPENDITURE OF THE STATE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX, LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX, AND LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX, RESPECTIVELY, SO AS TO ALLOW THE REVENUE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE CONTROL AND REPAIR OF FLOODING AND DRAINAGE AT TOURISM‑RELATED LANDS OR AREAS.

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

 Senator CAMPSEN from the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

 S. 933 -- Senator Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 50-5-1705(D) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO CATCH LIMITS FOR ESTUARINE AND SALTWATER FINFISH, TO REDUCE THE CATCH LIMITED FOR RED DRUM.

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

 Senator RANKIN from the Committee on Judiciary polled out S. 954 favorable:

S. 954 -- Senators Leatherman, Setzler, Massey and Fanning: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FROM ISSUING AN ORDER FOR REQUESTS MADE PURSUANT TO THE BASE LOAD REVIEW ACT UNTIL NINETY DAYS AFTER THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS SINE DIE FOR THE 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, BUT TO PERMIT AN EXPERIMENTAL RATE ORDER TO REVISE ELECTRIC RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 34, TITLE 58.

**Poll of the Judiciary Committee**

**Polled 23; Ayes 22; Nays 0; Abstain 1**

**AYES**

Rankin Hutto Malloy

Campsen Massey Johnson

McElveen Shealy Turner

Young Sabb *M.B. Matthews*

Climer Fanning Gambrell

Goldfinch McLeod Rice

Senn Talley Timmons

Cash

**Total--22**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

**ABSTAIN**

Kimpson

**Total--1**

 Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

**AMENDMENT PROPOSED, CARRIED OVER**

 S. 954 -- Senators Leatherman, Setzler, Massey and Fanning: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FROM ISSUING AN ORDER FOR REQUESTS MADE PURSUANT TO THE BASE LOAD REVIEW ACT UNTIL NINETY DAYS AFTER THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS SINE DIE FOR THE 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, BUT TO PERMIT AN EXPERIMENTAL RATE ORDER TO REVISE ELECTRIC RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 34, TITLE 58.

 Senator MASSEY asked unanimous consent to make a motion to take up the Resolution for immediate consideration.

 There was no objection.

 The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Resolution.

 Senator MASSEY proposed the following amendment (JUD0954.003):

 Amend the joint resolution, as and if amended, by striking SECTION 1, lines 23‑29 on page 1 and inserting:

 / SECTION 1. The Public Service Commission shall not issue a final order for a docket in which requests were made pursuant to the Base Load Review Act until ninety days after the South Carolina General Assembly adjourns Sine Die for the 2018 legislative session. No final determination of these requests, whether by a final order issued by the Public Service Commission or by operation of law, shall occur during this time period. The Public Service Commission’s failure to issue a final order as required by this Joint Resolution shall not constitute approval by the Public Service Commission and a utility must not put into effect the change in rates it requested in its schedule./

 Renumber sections to conform.

 Amend title to conform.

 Senator MASSEY explained the amendment.

**ACTING PRESIDENT PRESIDES**

 At 2:56 P.M., Senator GOLDFINCH assumed the Chair.

 Senator HUTTO spoke on the Resolution.

 On motion of Senator MASSEY, the Resolution was carried over.

**Recorded Vote**

 Senator SHEHEEN desired to be recorded as abstaining on the motion to carry over.

**PRESIDENT PRESIDES**

 At 3:23 P.M., the PRESIDENT assumed the Chair.

**Message from the House**

Columbia, S.C., February 7, 2018

Mr. President and Senators:

 The House respectfully informs your Honorable Body that it concurs in the amendments proposed by the Senate to:

 H. 3653 -- Reps. Forrester, Yow, Loftis, Henegan, Spires, Anderson, Burns, V.S. Moss, Crawford, Hamilton, Felder, Norman, Anthony, Chumley, Erickson, Gagnon, Hayes, Henderson, Hosey, Jefferson, S. Rivers, Ryhal, Sandifer, Thayer, Willis, Atkinson, Alexander, West, Hixon, Murphy, Arrington, Bennett and Crosby: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 24 TO TITLE 31 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE OPERATIONS OR EXPANSIONS OF MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NUISANCES IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, TO PROVIDE RELATED FINDINGS, TO EXPLICITLY PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM ENACTING ORDINANCES TO THE CONTRARY, TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMINOLOGY, TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO MODIFY STATUTORY EMINENT DOMAIN LAWS OR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, AND TO PROVIDE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT DO NOT APPLY TO NUISANCE ACTIONS COMMENCED WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS CHAPTER.

and has ordered the Bill enrolled for Ratification.

Very respectfully,

Speaker of the House

 Received as information.

**Message from the House**

Columbia, S.C., February 7, 2018

Mr. President and Senators:

 The House respectfully informs your Honorable Body that it concurs in the amendments proposed by the Senate to:

 H. 4588 -- Reps. Duckworth, Clemmons, Johnson, McGinnis, Hewitt, Crawford, Hardee and Fry: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RENAME THE BRIDGE THAT SPANS THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY ALONG SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 9 IN HORRY COUNTY THE “CAPTAIN ARCHIE NEIL ‘POO’ MCLAUCHLIN SWING BRIDGE” AND ERECT APPROPRIATE

MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THE BRIDGE CONTAINING THIS DESIGNATION.

Very respectfully,

Speaker of the House

 Received as information.

 **Appointments Reported**

Senator CAMPSEN from the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry submitted a favorable report on:

**Statewide Appointment**

Initial Appointment, Governing Board of Department of Natural Resources, with the term to commence July 1, 2016, and to expire July 1, 2020

Chairman:

Norman F. Pulliam, 812 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302-2000 *VICE* Cary L. Chastain

Received as information.

 Senator RANKIN from the Committee on Judiciary submitted a favorable report on:

**Statewide Appointments**

Reappointment, South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission, with the term to commence June 30, 2018, and to expire June 30, 2024

At-Large:

Henry Gene McCaskill, 604 Kirkwood Circle, Camden, SC 29020

Received as information.

Reappointment, South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission Chairman, with the term to commence June 30, 2018, and to expire June 30, 2024

Chairman:

Thomas Scott Beck, 422 Gold Nugget Point, Prosperity, SC 29127

Received as information.

Reappointment, South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission, with the term to commence June 30, 2018, and to expire June 30, 2024

At-Large:

Richard M. Campbell II, 131 High Knoll Rd., Columbia, SC 29223

Received as information.

**HOUSE CONCURRENCE**

 S. 961 -- Senator Scott: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE HENRY T. HOPKINS FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE AND OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

 Returned with concurrence.

 Received as information.

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

**AMENDED, READ THE THIRD TIME**

**RETURNED TO HOUSE**

H. 4397 -- Rep. Cobb‑Hunter: A BILL TO AMEND AN ACT OF 2017, BEARING RATIFICATION NUMBER 127, RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE THREE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY INTO ONE SCHOOL DISTRICT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019, SO AS TO REVISE PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE BUDGET OF THE ORANGEBURG CONSOLIDATION TRANSITION COMMITTEE, AND TO REVISE CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS CONTAINING OBSOLETE 2017 LANGUAGE.

 The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill.

 Senator J. MATTHEWS proposed the following amendment (4397JM2), which was adopted:

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

 / SECTION 1. SECTION 8 of R127, S662 of 2017 is amended by striking SECTION 8 and inserting:

 SECTION 8. (A) There must be created, within sixty days of the effective date of this act, the Orangeburg Consolidation Transition Committee with the purpose to coordinate the consolidation of the three present districts into the Orangeburg County School District. The committee must be composed of the following twelve voting members:

 (1) chairmen of the present three districts or their designees;

 (2) one board member from each of the present three districts, appointed by each board; and

 (3) six at large members appointed by the Orangeburg County Legislative Delegation. These six members must be appointed from Orangeburg County at large and shall possess experience in or professional or acquired knowledge of public education, finance, business, or legal matters.

 In addition to the twelve voting members of the committee, the three superintendents from the present three school districts shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members. One parent from each of the three present districts also must be appointed by the Orangeburg County Legislative Delegation to serve as nonvoting members.

 (B) Names of the members of the transition committee must be submitted to the county legislative delegation within sixty days of this act being signed by the Governor. The committee shall elect a chairman from one of the six at large voting members appointed by the legislative delegation. A vacancy on the committee must be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the committee member whose departure from the committee created the vacancy.

 (C) The committee may organize, begin planning for the changeover to the district, enter into contracts to effectuate these purposes, and perform other related matters. The committee also shall examine and make appropriate recommendations to the consolidated district board of trustees regarding the foreseeable consequences of school district consolidation on:

 (1) Orangeburg County’s special needs students; and

 (2) intradistrict transfers.

 (D) The committee must be insured and indemnified in the same manner as the present school districts are insured and indemnified.

 (E) Members of the committee shall receive per diem allowed by law for members of state boards, committees, or commissions but are not entitled to mileage and subsistence.

 (F) The committee must be abolished after making its recommendations to the consolidated district board of trustees.

 (G) The administrations and staffs of the present three school districts are expected and encouraged to cooperate with the transition committee and the board of the school district.

 (H) In creating the Orangeburg County School District, it is anticipated that there will be savings in the total district level administrative costs from the former individual districts. The committee shall review the current administrations and recommend to the board the number and type of positions needed for the consolidated district level administration.

 SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor. /

 Renumber sections to conform.

 Amend title to conform.

 Senator HUTTO explained the amendment.

 The amendment was adopted.

 There being no further amendments, the Bill was read third time, passed and ordered returned to the House of Representatives.

**READ THE THIRD TIME**

**SENT TO THE HOUSE**

The following Bill was read the third time and ordered sent to the House of Representatives:

S. 587 -- Senators Timmons, Talley, Rice, Turner, Climer and Young: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12‑43‑220(c) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO ASSESSMENT RATIOS, TO PROVIDE THAT, WHEN AN OWNER RECEIVING THE FOUR PERCENT ASSESSMENT RATIO DIES, THE PROPERTY SHALL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATE UNTIL THE DECEDENT’S ESTATE IS CLOSED, SO LONG AS THE PROPERTY IS NOT RENTED.

**SECOND READING**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

S. 955 -- Senators Alexander, Hutto, Setzler, Rankin, Massey and Leatherman: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE TO RESUME SCREENING CANDIDATES FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, SEATS 2, 4, AND 6, AND TO ADVERTISE FOR THESE POSITIONS FOR AN ADDITIONAL TIME PERIOD BEGINNING NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 16, 2018, THROUGH MARCH 2, 2018, AND TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2018, THROUGH NOON ON MARCH 5, 2018.

 On motion of Senator ALEXANDER, with unanimous consent, the Senate proceeded to an immediate consideration of the Resolution.

 Senator ALEXANDER explained the Resolution.

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

**Ayes 42; Nays 0**

**AYES**

Alexander Allen Bennett

Campbell Campsen Cash

Climer Corbin Cromer

Davis Fanning Gambrell

Goldfinch Gregory Grooms

Hembree Hutto Johnson

Kimpson Leatherman Malloy

Massey *Matthews, John Matthews, Margie*

McElveen McLeod Nicholson

Peeler Rankin Reese

Rice Sabb Scott

Senn Setzler Shealy

Talley Timmons Turner

Verdin Williams Young

**Total--42**

**NAYS**

**Total--0**

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

**AMENDMENT PROPOSED, CARRIED OVER**

 S. 759 -- Senator Rankin: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12‑37‑220, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS, SO AS TO ALLOW AN EXEMPTION FOR THE DWELLING HOUSE AND ONE ACRE OF LAND FOR A PERSON WITH A BRAIN OR SPINAL CORD INJURY.

 The Senate proceeded to a consideration of the Bill.

 Senator HUTTO proposed the following amendment (DG\
759C002.BBM.DG18):

 Amend the bill, as and if amended, SECTION 1, page 1, by striking item ( )(a) contained on lines 25 through 37 and inserting:

 / “( )(a) to the extent not already exempt pursuant to Section 12‑37‑250 and this section, the dwelling house in which he resides and a lot not to exceed one acre of land owned in fee or for life, or jointly with a spouse, by a person with a brain or spinal cord injury, two hundred fifty thousand dollars of property tax value, as defined in Section 12-37-3135, minus any amount exempted pursuant to Section 12-37-250 as a result of total and permanent disability, is exempt from all property taxation provided the person furnishes satisfactory proof of his disability to the Department of Revenue. The exemption is allowed to the surviving spouse of the person so long as the spouse does not remarry, resides in the dwelling, and obtains the fee or a life estate in the dwelling. To qualify for the exemption, the dwelling house must be the domicile of the person who qualifies for the exemption and the person must possess a doctor’s statement declaring that the person is one hundred percent disabled as a result of the brain or spinal cord injury; /

 Renumber sections to conform.

 Amend title to conform.

 Senator HUTTO explained the amendment.

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

**ADOPTED**

S. 940 -- Senator Alexander: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF MAY 2018 AS “MENTAL HEALTH MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO RAISE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL ILLNESS AND THE NEED FOR APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.

The Resolution was adopted, ordered sent to the House.

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

**MOTION ADOPTED**

 At 3:46 P.M., on motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate agreed to dispense with the balance of the Motion Period.

**Motion to Ratify Adopted**

 At 3:47 P.M., Senator ALEXANDER asked unanimous consent to make a motion to invite the House of Representatives to attend the Senate Chamber for the purpose of ratifying Acts at a mutually convenient time.

 There was no objection and a message was sent to the House accordingly.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

 On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the seal of secrecy was removed and at 3:47 P.M., the Senate resumed.

**LOCAL APPOINTMENT**

**Confirmation**

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

Initial Appointment, Edgefield County Judge of Probate, with the term to commence August 4, 2017, and to expire November 6, 2018

George W. Anderson, 328 Wigfall Street, Edgefield, SC 29824 *VICE* Robert E. Peeler

**Expression of Personal Interest**

 Senator SCOTT rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

**Expression of Personal Interest**

 Senator DAVIS rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

 **Motion Adopted**

 On motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate agreed to stand adjourned.

**ADJOURNMENT**

 At 4:07 P.M., on motion of Senator LEATHERMAN, the Senate adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11:00 A.M.

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