

NO. 48

JOURNAL
OF THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018

Monday, April 2, 2018
(Local 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 ACTING PRESIDENT, Senator SETZLER. **(This is a Statewide Session day established under the provisions of Senate Rule 1B. Members not having scheduled committee or subcommittee meetings may be in their home districts without effect on their session attendance record.)**

ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL

The following remarks by Senator GROOMS were ordered printed in the Journal of March 21, 2018:

Remarks by Senator GROOMS

Members, I have just returned from a very informative meeting in Charleston. This morning at 10:00, the Board of Directors of the Jasper Ocean Terminal Joint Project Office -- that is, the JPO -- met to consider the proposed construction timeframe for the development of the Jasper Ocean Terminal. (Recall that the purpose of this Joint Venture -- the IPO-- is to plan, design, construct, and operate a maritime container terminal port facility on the South Carolina side of the lower Savannah River -- to be owned jointly in equal portions by the GPA and SCSPA.)

Also present at this morning's meeting were the following members of the Board of Directors of the Joint Venture: Mr. Joel O. Wooten, Jr, Chairman of the JPO -- and a member of the Georgia Ports Authority Board; Mr. James L. Allgood, Jr. -- Chairman of the Georgia Ports Authority Board; (Mr. William D. McKnight of the GPA Board was absent) Mr. Bill H. Stern, Chairman of the SC Ports Authority; Mr. David J. Posek, Vice Chairman of the JPO and Vice Chairman of the SC Ports Authority and Mr. Colden R. Battey, Jr.

The governing body of the JPO is these six people. Also present at the meeting was the Executive Director of the Joint Project Office, this joint venture, Mr. Doug J. Marchand. Mr. Marchand, you recall, is the former Executive Director of the Georgia Ports Authority; further, Mr. Jim Newsome, CEO of the SC Ports Authority, and *Georgia Port* Authority Executive Director; *Griff* Lynch; Jasper County Council members, Tom Johnson and Henry Etheridge, and Jasper County Administrator, Andy

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Fulghum; and from the US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, Mr. Ned Bell.

What was discussed today was the ongoing process of the permitting process for the Jasper Ocean Terminal. Reports were given by consultants to the JPO: Ms. Kim Fitzgibbons of the Atkins firm, and by Jonathan Gage of Moffit and Nichols. There was discussion about various infrastructure changes that need to be further studied and about the regional plan that still needs to be studied. Also, Mr. Bell of the Corps of Engineers talked about the federal permitting process. Then the members moved to go into executive session, at which point I left the meeting in Charleston to drive here and report to this Body these facts.

Here is the most important item I report to you today: At the conclusion of today's meeting, the chairman of this joint venture, the JPO, Mr. Joel Wooten (recall that Mr. Wooten is also a member of the Georgia Ports Authority Board) Mr. Wooten, of Columbus, Georgia, made the following announcement: "The two ports authorities agreed the timeline for this terminal is mid 2030's -- that means 2035, 2036, 2037."

Mr. PRESIDENT, I ask unanimous consent to distribute information that further details these facts. First, a press release, released today by the Jasper Ocean Terminal Joint Project Office. And secondly, an article from the Post and Courier entitled "SC Ports Authority Seeks \$5 Million for future Jasper County Terminal."

ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL

The following remarks by Senator CORBIN were ordered printed in the Journal of March 21, 2018:

Remarks by Senator CORBIN

Thank you members of the Body. I am so sorry that I only have a few minutes to speak here so I'm going to speak rather quickly. I wanted to begin by thanking everyone for indulging us and it's a shame that we only have a short amount of time to talk about such a huge issue to the 110,000 people I represent. Several years ago, a board member from the Greenville Hospital System approached our delegation and said, "Do you know what's going on over there?" and I said, "No." And they said, "Well, you better get involved because they are about to snatch the hospital system away from you." So, we began to inquire as to what was going on only to find out that the board had, behind closed doors, for months and months and months, in secret meetings, created new private

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boards, leased \$4 billion in assets away from the taxpayers for the sum of \$1 a year and created a private company with self-perpetuating, non-accountable boards who can do whatever they want to do.

Naturally, I was a little upset. So, in my meetings with Greenville Hospital System I asked, "Why are you doing this?" And they said, "Well, for one reason it's to align with Obama Care." I'm not a big fan of Obama Care but we are not here to debate that. I was also told that soon, sooner than I would like, we would have a single payer system in this country. We would have basically government run, socialized medicine in America. I don't have time to debate the merits of that but God help us if it happens. I will get to the amendment now.

I filed this as a standalone Bill to have a referendum in Greenville County to get a pulse of the citizens to find out how they feel. A lot of people don't even know what's going on. I hope that after all this, they will know what is going on. I hope the media will finally cover it as it should be covered. All this amendment does is put it on the ballot for the people that it affects to have a voice. What's wrong with that? How can you go home to your constituents and say I took your voice away? There was an opportunity to let you vote, to let you speak your mind, but I snatched that away from you. Well, I'm not willing to say that to the 110,000 people I represent. I want to stand up for them. I want them to know I am here for them -- to protect them -- to do the best that I can. I move for passage.

ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL

The following remarks by Senator CASH were ordered printed in the Journal of March 27, 2018:

Remarks by Senator CASH

Thank you. For 20 years we have had introduced in this State Legislature a Personhood Bill to recognize the right to life of unborn persons. For 20 years it has been kept from the floor of this Senate for debate. Some people don't want to talk about it -- others definitely don't want to have to vote on it. But the fact remains that last year and this year, next year, more than likely, God forgive us, over 5,000 human beings will be killed in these abortion centers across this State. On average, that's about 16 a day. Yesterday, today, tomorrow, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. So I've just come to you today, knowing that we're in the midst of a very important budget and also

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knowing that as a Senate we have not had the fortitude and the willingness to take up what is in fact the single most important issue facing this State and the single most important issue that will face this State until we bring an end to the killing of the unborn babies in this State. Thank you.

THIRD READING BILL

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

S. 1144 -- Senator Cromer: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 7-7-420, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS IN NEWBERRY COUNTY, SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE MIDWAY PRECINCT, AND TO REDESIGNATE THE MAP NUMBER ON WHICH THE NAMES OF THESE PRECINCTS MAY BE FOUND AND MAINTAINED BY THE REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE.

On motion of Senator Cromer.

MOTION ADOPTED

On motion of Senator GROOMS, with unanimous consent, the Senate stood adjourned out of respect to the memory of Ms. Peggy B. Ensor of Moncks Corner, S.C. Peggy was a co-founder of the Hope Repair Ministry and the former co-owner of Ensor Family woodworks. She was a member of the Pointe North Church where she was a small group leader. She enjoyed cross stitching, woodworking and spending time with her family. Peggy was a loving wife, devoted mother and doting grandmother who will be dearly missed.

and

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MOTION ADOPTED

On motion of Senator GROOMS, with unanimous consent, the Senate stood adjourned out of respect to the memory of Ms. Shelby Jean Browder Wadford of St. Stephen, S.C. Shelby was a member of First Baptist Church. She enjoyed reading, cooking, flower gardening, sewing, quilting, traveling and spending time with her family. Shelby was a loving wife, devoted mother and doting grandmother who will be dearly missed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:06 A.M., on motion of Senator McELVEEN, the Senate adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11:00 A.M., under the provisions of Rule 1B.

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