

NO. 65

JOURNAL
OF THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

Friday, April 27, 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 McLEOD.

ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL

The following remarks by Senator SENN were ordered printed in the Journal of April 18, 2018:

Remarks by Senator SENN

Members of the Senate, I wanted to take a minute to address something that is to me very uncomfortable. Several weeks ago, I took to the podium, as was my right to complain about that fact that vote trading in our Body should not be allowed. But when I spoke, I was admittedly upset that my Bill, aimed at stopping school shootings before they occur, was killed. I'm still upset about it, but what I did and how I did it was not right. I feel the need to apologize for two things.

First, I spoke in anger. I lashed out rather than pointing out that our rules should change so that abuses do not occur. Because our rules are what they are and just because I may not agree with them, that does not give me the right to breach the decorum of this honorable Body. So for speaking in anger, I apologize, especially to Senator MALLOY.

Moreover, it has been brought to my attention that as an unintended consequence that may have occurred after my complaint about vote trading was made, the perception of the public might have been to think that these occurrences are common place. I have never said such and to clarify, the overwhelming majority of Senators in this Body work fairly and honorably with each other in negotiations. We sometimes agree and often we disagree and that is expected, but we work together towards solutions. And my complaint was not at all about the Body as a whole.

Now I do not apologize for shedding light on abuses of the rules that occur in the Senate which in my view hamstring us from doing the work of the Senate. The people of Charleston and Dorchester did not elect me to basically do the will or the bidding or be silenced by Senators simply because they are senior to me. They elected me to have a voice and not to be healed on matters that are important to our area and our State. But to the extent I use my voice and that it was interpreted to reflect poorly

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on any one Senator or the Body as a whole, I offer my sincere and heartfelt apology because nothing could be further from the truth. I am hopeful that you will maybe be receptive to a rules changes at a later date that may allow us to work more effectively to pass legislation but until then I sincerely apologize for my part in any recent turmoil and I do hope that this apology will allow us to use our last few weeks in this session productively for the people of South Carolina.

ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL

The following remarks by Senator GROOMS were ordered printed in the Journal of March 29, 2018:

Remarks by Senator GROOMS

Members of the Body, I appreciate your indulgence. Tomorrow is Good Friday and then it will be Easter Sunday. My favorite holidays are Christmas, Easter and Fourth of July. It is during Easter that I am reminded of faithfulness. Faithfulness to our God and our Creator, faithfulness to one another, and faithfulness to the people of South Carolina.

There are two women I would like to tell you about today and one of them is Shelby Watford of St. Stephen. After Carol and I were married nearly 30 years ago and she moved from Wahalla to St. Stephen, Shelby Watford was one of the first people who reached out to Carol and befriended her. Shelby Watford was a faithful woman. I don't think I ever attended First Baptist Church in St. Stephen when she and her husband were not there and I don't know how many Christmas cantatas I sang in the choir with her. She loved her family, she loved her children, she loved her community, but above all else, she loved Jesus. She loved her God. And she was faithful. Not long ago her youngest daughter, who lives in Illinois, bought a house in Ocean Lakes so that the family could all get together and enjoy time together. Shelby had only just begun truly getting to enjoy family time at Ocean Lakes with her grandchildren when she had a reoccurrence of cancer and passed away earlier this year. The people that we talk about and that we honor sometimes, they have done great and wonderful things. But today, I want to recognize Shelby for the faithfulness she had to her God, her family, and her State and ask that at the next available date we adjourn in memory of her.

The other woman I would like to recognize today is Peggy Ensor from Moncks Corner. Peggy is also a faithful woman, who emulated the life

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of Christ by being His hands and His feet to the needy. Peggy and her husband began a ministry that is housed at our church in Moncks Corner, Pointe North Community Church, and there are now other churches involved. For the past seven or more years, a group will gather in Moncks Corner on the second Saturday of each month from all over to visit homes. The ministry, Hope Repair, keeps families safe and dry and warm. I visited a couple of homes in Berkeley County where folks who live near the new Volvo facility have no running water. There was one lady who collected rain water in five gallon buckets. A couple weeks ago I was at a house only two miles from where I live that a lady had not had running water in her home for the past 6 years. Her grandchildren would go fetch it in gallon jugs and that's how they would cook. Peggy would go to these homes and try to determine their need and she was the active hands and feet of Jesus. She is also someone that you wouldn't hear about and that is why I am telling you about her today. Peggy also had cancer and she also passed away earlier this year. Once after a serious cancer operation on a Tuesday, she was back on Saturday being the hands and feet of Jesus to those who needed help.

These two women were faithful to their God and they were faithful to the end. As we celebrate Easter weekend, as we celebrate the day of suffering and death of Jesus on the cross, and as we celebrate life anew on Easter morning, I thought it would be appropriate to check ourselves about our faithfulness.

THIRD READING BILLS

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

S. 1047 -- Senator Hutto: 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 PROVIDE THAT THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST BE GOVERNED BY A NINE MEMBER BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTED FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS, AND TO PROVIDE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REGARDING THE ELECTION DISTRICTS.

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S. 1043 -- Senators Turner and Talley: A BILL TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ABANDONED BUILDINGS REVITALIZATION ACT AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 67, TITLE 12 OF THE 1976 CODE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:05 A.M., on motion of Senator SETZLER, the Senate adjourned to meet next Tuesday, May 2, 2018, at 2:00 P.M.

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