

NO. 12

**JOURNAL**  
**of the**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**of the**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019  
(STATEWIDE SESSION)

**Wednesday, January 23, 2019**  
**(Statewide Session)**

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~  
Indicates New Matter

The House assembled at 2:00 p.m.  
Deliberations were opened with prayer by Rev. Charles E. Seastrunk, Jr., as follows:

Our thought for today is from Zechariah 8:19: “Therefore love truth and love.”

Let us pray. Source of all life, help us to live today giving witness to our love of Your truth and peace. In the mornings You hear the cry of our people to give us a sense of belonging. For those who need Your help in trying to find truth, grant them their request. Bless each of these Representatives as they work for the good of the people of this State. Remember our defenders of freedom and first responders as they protect us. Bless our Nation, President, State, Governor, Speaker, staff, and all who labor in these Halls of Government. Heal the wounds, those seen and those hidden, of our brave warriors who suffer and sacrifice for our freedom. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.

Pursuant to Rule 6.3, the House of Representatives was led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America by the *SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE*.

After corrections to the Journal of the proceedings of yesterday, the *SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE* ordered it confirmed.

**MOTION ADOPTED**

Rep. FELDER moved that when the House adjourns, it adjourn in memory of Karson Bailey Whitesell, which was agreed to.

Ms. Karson Bailey Whitesell

When the House adjourns today, I respectfully request we do so in memory of Karson Bailey Whitesell. On January 23, 2018, this “extraordinary young woman” was shot in a random act of violence while working as a cashier at a local store that is the iconic front porch of the Fort Mill community.

Karson was a kind, caring person that enjoyed her family, her church, and her mission trips. She had spent the summer in Swaziland and South Africa volunteering and making a difference in the lives of others.

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Her family continues her efforts to change the world with the Karson Kompassion Project, spreading peace and love to those in the shadows.

I respectfully request that these remarks are printed in today's House Journal as a small token of sympathy for this reckless act of violence.

Rep. Raye Felder

**REGULATIONS WITHDRAWN**

Document No. 4820

Agency: Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 40-1-50, 40-1-70, 40-6-50, and 40-6-60

Auctioneers' Commission

Received by Speaker of the House of Representatives January 8, 2019

Referred to Regulations and Administrative Procedures Committee

Legislative Review Expiration: Permanently Withdrawn

**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

The following was introduced:

H. 3718 -- Reps. Bannister, Alexander, Allison, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Bales, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bennett, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bradley, Brawley, Brown, Bryant, Burns, Calhoon, Caskey, Chellis, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Cogswell, Collins, B. Cox, W. Cox, Crawford, Daning, Davis, Dillard, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Finlay, Forrest, Forrester, Fry, Funderburk, Gagnon, Garvin, Gilliam, Gilliard, Govan, Hardee, Hart, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Huggins, Hyde, Jefferson, Johnson, Jordan, Kimmons, King, Kirby, Ligon, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, Mace, Mack, Magnuson, Martin, McCoy, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, McKnight, Moore, Morgan, D. C. Moss, V. S. Moss, Murphy, B. Newton, W. Newton, Norrell, Ott, Parks, Pendarvis, Pope, Ridgeway, Rivers, Robinson, Rose, Rutherford, Sandifer, Simmons, Simrill, G. M. Smith, G. R. Smith, Sottile, Spires, Stavrinakis, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Toole, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, R. Williams, S. Williams, Willis, Wooten, Young and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO HONOR DEPUTY TONY HANNON OF THE GREENVILLE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE, WHO DISPLAYED EXCEPTIONAL COURAGE IN THE FACE OF DANGER WHILE IN THE LINE OF DUTY, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON RECEIVING THE

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**SOUTH CAROLINA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION MEDAL OF VALOR AWARD.**

The Resolution was adopted.

**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

The following was introduced:

H. 3719 -- Reps. Ballentine, Huggins, Alexander, Allison, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Bales, Bamberg, Bannister, Bennett, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bradley, Brawley, Brown, Bryant, Burns, Calhoon, Caskey, Chellis, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Cogswell, Collins, B. Cox, W. Cox, Crawford, Daning, Davis, Dillard, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Finlay, Forrest, Forrester, Fry, Funderburk, Gagnon, Garvin, Gilliam, Gilliard, Govan, Hardee, Hart, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Hyde, Jefferson, Johnson, Jordan, Kimmons, King, Kirby, Ligon, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, Mace, Mack, Magnuson, Martin, McCoy, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, McKnight, Moore, Morgan, D. C. Moss, V. S. Moss, Murphy, B. Newton, W. Newton, Norrell, Ott, Parks, Pendarvis, Pope, Ridgeway, Rivers, Robinson, Rose, Rutherford, Sandifer, Simmons, Simrill, G. M. Smith, G. R. Smith, Sottile, Spires, Stavrinakis, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Toole, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, R. Williams, S. Williams, Willis, Wooten, Young and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND ST. PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF IRMO UPON THE OCCASION OF IRMO'S MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION.

The Resolution was adopted.

**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

The following was introduced:

H. 3720 -- Rep. Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND DAVID CHRISTOPHER "CHRIS" BLACK OF MT. CROGHAN IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY FOR HIS CARING COMMITMENT TO SERVING HIS COMMUNITY.

The Resolution was adopted.

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

The following was introduced:

H. 3721 -- Reps. McCoy, Bennett, Brown, Chellis, Cogswell, Gilliard, Hewitt, Mace, Mack, Pendarvis, Simmons, Sottile, Stavrinakis, Alexander, Allison, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Bales, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bernstein, Blackwell, Bradley, Brawley, Bryant, Burns, Calhoun, Caskey, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, B. Cox, W. Cox, Crawford, Daning, Davis, Dillard, Elliott, Erickson, Felder, Finlay, Forrest, Forrester, Fry, Funderburk, Gagnon, Garvin, Gilliam, Govan, Hardee, Hart, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Henegan, Herbkersman, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Hosey, Howard, Huggins, Hyde, Jefferson, Johnson, Jordan, Kimmons, King, Kirby, Ligon, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, Magnuson, Martin, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, McKnight, Moore, Morgan, D. C. Moss, V. S. Moss, Murphy, B. Newton, W. Newton, Norrell, Ott, Parks, Pope, Ridgeway, Rivers, Robinson, Rose, Rutherford, Sandifer, Simrill, G. M. Smith, G. R. Smith, Spires, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Thayer, Thigpen, Toole, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wheeler, White, Whitmire, R. Williams, S. Williams, Willis, Wooten, Young and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR JILL BURGIN, SCHOOL NURSE AT STILES POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND TO CONGRATULATE HER UPON BEING NAMED THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL NURSE OF THE YEAR.

The Resolution was adopted.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

The Senate sent to the House the following:

S. 382 -- Senators Alexander, Rankin and Hutto: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO FIX WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS FOR THE POSITIONS NAMED IN THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION IN WHICH CANDIDATES SCREENED BY THE JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION AND THE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE SCREENING COMMISSION, AS THE TIME TO ELECT A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

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COMMISSION FOR THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
FOR A TERM EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2022.

The Concurrent Resolution was agreed to and ordered returned to the Senate with concurrence.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

The Senate sent to the House the following:

S. 409 -- Senator Fanning: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR LAMAR RICHARDS, A SENIOR IN THE DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM AT RICHLAND ONE MIDDLE COLLEGE, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR WINNING THE TENTH ANNUAL LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE.

The Concurrent Resolution was agreed to and ordered returned to the Senate with concurrence.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

The Senate sent to the House the following:

S. 411 -- Senator Fanning: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR BENNIE MCMURRAY FOR HIS THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS A COACH IN THE PALMETTO STATE, PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES, AND TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR HIS ROLE IN PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE THEIR PLACES AS PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.

The Concurrent Resolution was agreed to and ordered returned to the Senate with concurrence.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

The following Bills and Joint Resolution were introduced, read the first time, and referred to appropriate committees:

H. 3722 -- Rep. Sandifer: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 41-1-25, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, SO AS TO PROVIDE POLITICAL

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SUBDIVISIONS MAY NOT REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO PAY EMPLOYEES ADDITIONAL WAGES OR PAY BASED ON ANY ALTERATIONS OR ADJUSTMENTS OF EMPLOYEE SCHEDULING NOR MAY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS FINE OR OTHERWISE PENALIZE EMPLOYERS WHO DO NOT PAY EMPLOYEES ADDITIONAL WAGES BASED ON ANY ALTERATIONS OR ADJUSTMENTS OF EMPLOYEE SCHEDULING.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry

H. 3723 -- Reps. Clemmons and G. R. Smith: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8-13-1325 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CANDIDATES AND COMMITTEES MAY ACCEPT DIGITAL CURRENCY AS CONTRIBUTIONS, THAT AN INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF DIGITAL CURRENCY BEING HELD BY A CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE MUST BE REPORTED AS INTEREST, AND THAT A CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE SHALL SELL ANY DIGITAL CURRENCY AND DEPOSIT THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE INTO A CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT BEFORE SPENDING THE FUNDS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 8-13-1300, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS APPLICABLE TO SOUTH CAROLINA CAMPAIGN PRACTICES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEFINITION OF "CONTRIBUTION" INCLUDES DIGITAL CURRENCY.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3724 -- Rep. Martin: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 56-2-105, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES' ISSUANCE OF GOLF CART PERMITS AND THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ALONG THE STATE'S HIGHWAYS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION THAT RESTRICT THE OPERATION OF A GOLF CART TO DAYLIGHT HOURS ONLY DO NOT APPLY TO THE OPERATION OF CERTAIN GOLF CARTS OPERATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING TOURISM-RELATED TOURS.

Referred to Committee on Education and Public Works

H. 3725 -- Rep. Felder: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44-1-320 SO AS TO ESTABLISH AN "ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PEDIATRIC

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ACUTE-ONSET NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SYNDROME (PANS) AND PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTIONS (PANDAS)"; TO PROVIDE FOR MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL; TO REQUIRE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO APPOINT CERTAIN MEMBERS AND TO PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

H. 3726 -- Reps. Weeks, Fry, Alexander, Dillard, Erickson, Hewitt, Huggins, Norrell, Pendarvis, Ridgeway, Rutherford, Spires, Trantham, West, Wooten and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTIONS 17-5-135 AND 17-5-250 SO AS TO REQUIRE, AMONG OTHERS, CORONERS AND MEDICAL EXAMINERS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF DEATHS CAUSED BY OPIATES.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

H. 3727 -- Reps. Fry, Alexander, Dillard, Erickson, Hewitt, Huggins, Norrell, Pendarvis, Ridgeway, Rutherford, Spires, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wooten and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44-6-115 SO AS TO REQUIRE MEDICAID HEALTH PLANS TO ENSURE ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE CLINICAL SERVICES FOR THE EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OF OPIOID USE DISORDERS, INCLUDING ACCESS TO MEDICATIONS.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

H. 3728 -- Reps. Fry, Alexander, Dillard, Erickson, Hewitt, Huggins, Norrell, Pendarvis, Ridgeway, Rutherford, Spires, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wooten and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44-130-80 SO AS TO REQUIRE HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PHYSICIANS AND PHARMACISTS TO SUBMIT CERTAIN INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND



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ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL (DHEC) FOR INCLUSION IN THE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM WHEN A PERSON IS ADMINISTERED AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE; TO AMEND SECTION 44-130-60, RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY OF FIRST RESPONDERS TO ADMINISTER OPIOID ANTIDOTES, SO AS TO REQUIRE FIRST RESPONDERS TO SUBMIT CERTAIN INFORMATION TO DHEC FOR INCLUSION IN THE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-1640, RELATING TO THE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE PROGRAM TO MONITOR THE ADMINISTERING OF OPIOID ANTIDOTES BY FIRST RESPONDERS AND IN EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE SETTINGS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-1645, RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT OF PRACTITIONERS TO REVIEW A PATIENT'S CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION HISTORY BEFORE PRESCRIBING A SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, SO AS TO ALSO REQUIRE A REVIEW OF ANY INCIDENTS IN WHICH THE PATIENT HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE BY A FIRST RESPONDER OR IN AN EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE SETTING.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

H. 3729 -- Reps. Fry and West: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-310, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO MANDATED REPORTING OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT, SO AS TO REQUIRE REPORTING WHEN AN INFANT OR FETUS IS EXPOSED TO ALCOHOL OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3730 -- Reps. Fry and West: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-370, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING IN PART TO THE TRAFFICKING OFFENSES FOR CERTAIN CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, SO AS TO ADD AN OFFENSE FOR "TRAFFICKING IN FENTANYL".

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3731 -- Reps. Hewitt, Fry and West: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-160, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE PROCESS FOR MAKING

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CHANGES TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE SCHEDULES, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO ADD A SUBSTANCE TO SCHEDULE I TEMPORARILY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3732 -- Reps. Hewitt, Fry and West: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40-69-255 SO AS TO REQUIRE VETERINARIANS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION RELATED TO PRESCRIBING AND MONITORING CERTAIN CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

H. 3733 -- Reps. Weeks, Fry and West: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 50 TO TITLE 44 SO AS TO ENACT THE "COMMUNITY-LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR DEFLECTION AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT ACT"; TO AUTHORIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ESTABLISH DEFLECTION PROGRAMS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TREATMENT FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO FACILITATE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS COMMITTING OFFENSES INSTEAD OF ARREST AND ADDITIONAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT; TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONAL TERMS; AND TO CREATE CERTAIN IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A DEFLECTION PROGRAM AND FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WHEN IMPLEMENTING DEFLECTION PROGRAMS IN GOOD FAITH.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3734 -- Reps. Fry, Alexander, Dillard, Erickson, Hewitt, Huggins, Norrell, Pendarvis, Ridgeway, Spires, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wooten and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-53-370, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DRUG OFFENSES, SO AS TO CONFORM THE LANGUAGE OF TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS PROVISIONS, INCLUDING

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OPIATES AND HEROIN, TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE PROVISIONS CONCERNING POSSESSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN ILLEGAL DRUGS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SYNTHETIC OPIATES, AMONG OTHER DRUGS.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3735 -- Reps. Fry, Alexander, Dillard, Erickson, Hewitt, Huggins, Norrell, Pendarvis, Ridgeway, Spires, Trantham, Weeks, West, Wooten and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 16-3-60, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER, SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER TO INCLUDE THE SALE OR DELIVERY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, THEIR ANALOGUES, OR OTHER UNLAWFUL SUBSTANCES THAT CAUSE THE DEATH OF THE USER WHEN INGESTED, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3736 -- Reps. Spires, Calhoon, Ballentine, Huggins, Caskey, Toole and Wooten: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12-37-220, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS, SO AS TO ALLOW AN EXEMPTION FROM ALL PROPERTY TAX EQUAL TO ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE VALUE SUBJECT TO TAX OF AN OWNER-OCCUPIED RESIDENCE IF THE OWNER HAS ATTAINED THE AGE OF SIXTY-FIVE YEARS.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. 3737 -- Reps. Spires, Calhoon, Huggins, Caskey, Ott, Ballentine, Toole and Wooten: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 55-11-320, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT, SO AS TO INCREASE THE DISTRICT'S MEMBERSHIP BY TWO MEMBERS WHO MUST BE RESIDENTS OF CAYCE OR WEST COLUMBIA.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

H. 3738 -- Reps. Spires, Calhoon, Huggins, Caskey, Ott, Toole and Wooten: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12-43-220, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO ASSESSMENT RATIOS, SO AS TO EXTEND TO MEMBERS OF THE UNITED

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STATES FOREIGN SERVICE CERTAIN LEGAL RESIDENCE PROVISIONS THAT APPLY TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. 3739 -- Reps. Ridgeway, McKnight, Alexander and Wheeler: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 57-3-619 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO IMPOSE A TOLL ALONG INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 95 WHERE IT CROSSES LAKE MARION IN EITHER ORANGEBURG COUNTY OR CLARENDON COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF THE TOLL REVENUES.

Referred to Committee on Education and Public Works

H. 3740 -- Rep. Herbkersman: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 8-11-82 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A PAYROLL DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING EMPLOYEE PURCHASES OF CONSUMER OFFERINGS THROUGH AN EMPLOYEE PURCHASE PROGRAM.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

S. 76 -- Senators Cromer and Alexander: 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 FIVE ADDITIONAL YEARS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 12-36-2110, RELATING TO THE MAXIMUM SALES TAX, SO AS TO MAKE A CONFORMING CHANGE.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

S. 205 -- Senators Young, Martin, Setzler and Shealy: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 44-36-320 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE DUTIES OF THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS RESOURCE COORDINATION CENTER, TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL DUTY TO FACILITATE AND COORDINATE EARLY DETECTION EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

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S. 207 -- Senator Young: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 12-43-220(c)(2) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PROGRAMS AND UNIFORM ASSESSMENT RATIOS FOR COUNTY EQUALIZATION AND REASSESSMENT, TO PROVIDE THAT AN OWNER ELIGIBLE FOR AND RECEIVING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-220(c) WHO IS RESIDING AT A NURSING HOME RETAINS THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATIO OF FOUR PERCENT FOR AS LONG AS THE OWNER REMAINS IN THE NURSING HOME.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry

S. 217 -- Senators Kimpson, Campsen, Senn and Scott: A BILL TO AMEND SECTIONS 6-1-530, 6-1-730, AND 6-4-10 OF THE 1976 CODE, ALL RELATING TO THE EXPENDITURE OF THE STATE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX, LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX, AND LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX, RESPECTIVELY, TO ALLOW THE REVENUE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE CONTROL AND REPAIR OF FLOODING AND DRAINAGE AT TOURISM-RELATED LANDS OR AREAS.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

S. 326 -- Senators Massey, Setzler, Malloy, Turner, Alexander and Young: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION TO DISTRIBUTE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE FOR POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER INSURANCE AND PROGRAMS.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

S. 327 -- Senator Shealy: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 1-25-60(A)(5)(b) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE STATE INTERAGENCY PLANNING AND EVALUATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO REDESIGNATE THE GENERAL COMMITTEE AS THE FAMILY AND VETERANS' SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs

S. 333 -- Senator M. B. Matthews: A BILL TO AMEND ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 21, TITLE 24 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PROBATION, BY ADDING SECTION 24-21-435, TO PROVIDE

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THAT PROBATION OFFICERS, COURT PERSONNEL, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND PRIVATE VOLUNTEERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS IN WHICH A PROBATIONER IS COMPLETING COMMUNITY SERVICE AS A CONDITION OF PROBATION ARE NOT LIABLE FOR CIVIL DAMAGES UNLESS AN INJURY OR DAMAGES RESULT FROM THE GROSS NEGLIGENCE, RECKLESSNESS, OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT OF SUCH PERSON.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call of the House of Representatives was taken resulting as follows:

Alexander	Allison	Anderson
Atkinson	Bailey	Bales
Ballentine	Bamberg	Bannister
Bennett	Bernstein	Blackwell
Bradley	Brawley	Brown
Bryant	Burns	Calhoon
Caskey	Chellis	Chumley
Clary	Clemmons	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Cogswell	Collins
B. Cox	W. Cox	Crawford
Daning	Davis	Dillard
Elliott	Erickson	Felder
Finlay	Forrest	Forrester
Fry	Funderburk	Gagnon
Garvin	Gilliam	Gilliard
Govan	Hardee	Hart
Hayes	Henderson-Myers	Henegan
Herbkersman	Hewitt	Hill
Hiott	Hixon	Hosey
Howard	Huggins	Hyde
Jefferson	Johnson	Jordan
Kimmons	King	Kirby
Ligon	Loftis	Long
Lowe	Lucas	Mace
Mack	Magnuson	Martin
McCoy	McCray	McDaniel
McGinnis	McKnight	Moore

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Morgan	D. C. Moss	V. S. Moss
Murphy	B. Newton	W. Newton
Norrell	Ott	Parks
Pendarvis	Pope	Ridgeway
Rivers	Robinson	Rose
Rutherford	Sandifer	Simmons
Simrill	G. M. Smith	G. R. Smith
Sottile	Spires	Stavrakis
Stringer	Tallon	Taylor
Thayer	Thigpen	Toole
Trantham	Weeks	West
Wheeler	White	Whitmire
R. Williams	S. Williams	Willis
Wooten	Young	Yow

**Total Present--123**

**STATEMENT FOR THE JOURNAL**

I was absent from Session on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, due to illness.

Rep. Heather Crawford

**DOCTOR OF THE DAY**

Announcement was made that Dr. Richard C. Osman of Myrtle Beach was the Doctor of the Day for the General Assembly.

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

In accordance with House Rule 5.2 below:

“5.2 Every bill before presentation shall have its title endorsed; every report, its title at length; every petition, memorial, or other paper, its prayer or substance; and, in every instance, the name of the member presenting any paper shall be endorsed and the papers shall be presented by the member to the Speaker at the desk. A member may add his name to a bill or resolution or a co-sponsor of a bill or resolution may remove his name at any time prior to the bill or resolution receiving passage on second reading. The member or co-sponsor shall notify the Clerk of the House in writing of his desire to have his name added or removed from the bill or resolution. The Clerk of the House shall print the member's or

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co-sponsor's written notification in the House Journal. The removal or addition of a name does not apply to a bill or resolution sponsored by a committee.”

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3012  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 GILLIARD

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3036  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 BURNS and HUGGINS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3087  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 BENNETT

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3116  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 DAVIS

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3182  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS, BURNS, LONG and LOFTIS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3202  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 MURPHY

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3249  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS and LOFTIS



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**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3250  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 MOORE

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3271  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 JEFFERSON and ALEXANDER

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3273  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 LONG, BURNS and HUGGINS

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3277  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS and LONG

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3284  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 LONG and BURNS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3289  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3294  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS, V. S. MOSS, BURNS and LONG

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3296  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 BURNS and HUGGINS

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**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3298  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HUGGINS and LONG

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3304  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 JEFFERSON

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3357  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 COLLINS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3370  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 COBB-HUNTER

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3411  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 WILLIS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3414  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 DAVIS

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3660  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 HILL

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3680  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 ERICKSON, W. NEWTON and BRADLEY

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**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3681  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 LOFTIS

**CO-SPONSORS ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3697  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 BALES, MOORE and GOVAN

**CO-SPONSOR ADDED**

Bill Number: H. 3723  
Date: ADD:  
01/23/19 G. R. SMITH

**SPEAKER IN CHAIR**

**SENT TO THE SENATE**

The following Bill was taken up, read the third time, and ordered sent to the Senate:

H. 3662 -- Rep. McCoy: A BILL TO ADOPT REVISED CODE VOLUMES 3 AND 4 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, TO THE EXTENT OF THEIR CONTENTS, AS THE ONLY GENERAL PERMANENT STATUTORY LAW OF THE STATE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2019.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

The SPEAKER granted Rep. GARVIN a temporary leave of absence.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

The SPEAKER granted Rep. TOOLE a temporary leave of absence.

**H. 3697--ORDERED TO THIRD READING**

The following Joint Resolution was taken up:

H. 3697 -- Reps. Taylor, Allison, Gilliard, Simmons, Bales, Moore and Govan: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE THAT NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF REGULATION 62-6-(D), SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF REGULATIONS, RELATING

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TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN ACADEMIC PROGRAMS MUST BE EARNED THROUGH INSTRUCTION BY THE INSTITUTION AWARDING THE DEGREE, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION MAY GRANT ALTERNATE PROGRAM COMPLETION OPTIONS TO STUDENTS IMPACTED BY THE CLOSURE OF SIX EDUCATION CORPORATION OF AMERICA, INC., HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA IN 2018.

Rep. TAYLOR explained the Joint Resolution.

The yeas and nays were taken resulting as follows:

Yeas 113; Nays 0

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Alexander	Allison	Anderson
Atkinson	Bailey	Bales
Ballentine	Bannister	Bennett
Blackwell	Bradley	Brawley
Brown	Bryant	Burns
Calhoon	Caskey	Chellis
Chumley	Clary	Clemmons
Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter	Cogswell
Collins	B. Cox	W. Cox
Crawford	Daning	Davis
Dillard	Elliott	Erickson
Felder	Finlay	Forrest
Forrester	Fry	Funderburk
Gagnon	Gilliam	Gilliard
Govan	Hardee	Hart
Hayes	Henegan	Herbkersman
Hewitt	Hill	Hiott
Hixon	Hosey	Howard
Huggins	Hyde	Jefferson
Johnson	Jordan	Kimmons
King	Kirby	Ligon
Loftis	Long	Lowe
Lucas	Mace	Mack
Martin	McCravy	McDaniel
McGinnis	McKnight	Moore

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Morgan	D. C. Moss	V. S. Moss
Murphy	B. Newton	W. Newton
Ott	Parks	Pendarvis
Pope	Ridgeway	Rivers
Robinson	Rose	Rutherford
Sandifer	Simmons	Simrill
G. M. Smith	Sottile	Spires
Stringer	Tallon	Taylor
Thayer	Thigpen	Trantham
Weeks	West	Wheeler
White	Whitmire	R. Williams
S. Williams	Willis	Wooten
Young	Yow	

**Total--113**

Those who voted in the negative are:

**Total--0**

So, the Joint Resolution was read the second time and ordered to third reading.

**H. 3684--RECALLED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE  
ON LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

On motion of Rep. HIOTT, with unanimous consent, the following Bill was ordered recalled from the Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs and was referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry:

H. 3684 -- Rep. R. Williams: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 39-1-110 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT ANY PERSON THAT IS IN THE BUSINESS OF SELLING MOTOR FUEL AT RETAIL IN THIS STATE AND CHARGES DIFFERENT PRICES FOR THE PURCHASE OF MOTOR FUEL BASED ON THE FORM OF PAYMENT, MUST CONSIDER A DEBIT CARD THE SAME AS CASH, AND CHARGE THE PURCHASER THE SAME AS IF THE PURCHASER PAID WITH CASH.

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**H. 3012--ADOPTED AND SENT TO SENATE**

The following Concurrent Resolution was taken up:

H. 3012 -- Reps. McDaniel, S. Williams, Moore, Brawley and Gilliard: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE BELIEF OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THIS STATE SHOULD UTILIZE THE EDUCATION RATE PROGRAM OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (E-RATE) ESTABLISHED BY THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 WHICH PROVIDES DISCOUNTS ON INTERNET ACCESS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES FOR SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH HIGHER POVERTY LEVELS IN THEIR STUDENT POPULATION THAT WOULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO THESE STUDENTS.

The Concurrent Resolution was adopted and sent to the Senate.

Rep. STAVRINAKIS moved that the House recede until 6:45 p.m., which was agreed to.

**JOINT ASSEMBLY**

At 7:00 p.m. 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.

H. 3614 -- Rep. Lucas: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION INVITING HIS EXCELLENCY, HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO ADDRESS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN JOINT SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019, IN THE CHAMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Governor Henry McMaster and distinguished party were escorted to the rostrum by Senators Massey, Setzler, Leatherman, Jackson, Shealy and REPRESENTATIVES DILLARD, HOWARD, HYDE, ERICKSON, ELLIOTT and BALLENTINE. The President of the Senate introduced Governor McMaster, who then addressed the Joint Assembly as follows:

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2019 State of the State Address  
Governor Henry McMaster  
Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you all for being here tonight, those in this magnificent building as well as those watching from afar.

I am proud of our State and I am also proud of my family. For those who have not met them, please let me introduce my wife, Peggy and my son Henry and his wife Virginia. We all live in Columbia. My daughter, Mary Rogers, is watching from New York with her fiancé, Samuel Martin Herskovitz. The big date: March 16. Will you please stand be recognized? Thank you.

One year ago, I observed that we were at the dawn of a new prosperity, that our future would be even better than our past.

Tonight, as we all know, it is true. The state of our State is strong – and getting even stronger. We live in a land of opportunity. And over the generations we have built the institutions of opportunity. Our goals today must be to re-invigorate and accelerate those institutions and rededicate ourselves to achieving the prosperity which can be ours.

We have a strong state because we are strong people. A family, a state, a nation is only as strong as its people. Our strength is an economic issue and also an issue of national security. In a rapidly changing world – a highly competitive and dangerous world – we must be constantly making our people strong. Educated. Trained. Healthy. Happy.

As I speak tonight, I would like to recognize just a few of our strong people. Leaders who have made a difference in our lives. I start with the six in uniform who lost their lives while protecting ours.

Deputy Shannon Dale Hallman of the Saluda County Sheriff's Office;

Deputy James L. Kirk, Jr. of the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office;

Sergeant Terrance F. Carraway of the Florence Police Department;

Deputy Farrah B. Turner of the Florence County Sheriff's Office;

Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Charles Straight of the Charlotte Road/Van Wyck Volunteer Fire Department in Lancaster County; and

Sergeant First Class Christopher A. Celiz, United States Army, who lost his life in Paktia Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

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To the families and loved ones of these men and women, on behalf of all South Carolinians, we send you love, admiration and strength, and we thank you for your loved ones' service and sacrifice. You are in our prayers.

I would also like to thank Dr. Harris Pastides, who is retiring after ten years of remarkable leadership and accomplishment at the University of South Carolina, who is with us tonight. Dr. Pastides, please stand and be recognized.

Not with us tonight is Dr. Andrew Hsu, whom we welcome as the new president of the College of Charleston. He has called this position his "American Dream."

And also, I'd like to congratulate Clemson University on winning their third national championship.

In many different ways, all of these men and women have added to the strength and prosperity of our State.

And I have one brand new face for you: Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette of Travelers Rest with her husband David and son Jackson. Thank you for accepting the call to serve our fellow citizens. Please stand and be recognized.

Ladies and gentlemen, South Carolina is red hot.

Our agricultural base is accelerating, our tourism industry is thriving, and we have become a major high-tech manufacturing hub. South Carolina is the nation's top exporter of tires and of completed automobiles. Our average annual manufacturing employment growth is 16%, the highest in the southeast. Over and over we are recognized as one of the best places in the country to do business and to visit or vacation.

In the last two years, we have announced over \$8 billion dollars in new capital investment and more than 27,000 new jobs. Our unemployment rate just hit an all-time low. More people are working than ever before.

In the past year we have welcomed many new businesses to South Carolina and celebrated the growth, expansions, and milestones with those who already call our State home. Some of them are here with us tonight. I'll ask them to stand and we'll welcome as a group.

Representing W. International, Mr. Ed Walker and Ms. Michelle Fowler;

Representing Kent International and Bicycle Corporation of America, Mr. Arnold Kamler and Mr. Scott Kamler;

Representing DRÄXLMAIER Group, Mr. Bradley Nelson and Mr. Chip Vogel;



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Representing Keurig Dr. Pepper, Mr. Randy Downing and Ms. Pam Daskalakis;

Representing Sonoco, Mr. Rob Tiede and Mr. Roger Schrum;

Representing Google, Mr. Paul Carff; and

Representing RoundPoint Mortgage, Mr. Kevin Brungard.

Ladies and gentlemen, we welcome you to this historic State House.

Did you notice at the Inauguration ceremony two weeks ago – on the steps – in addition to the display of leadership of our academic establishment, the presence of 27 diplomats from 22 countries? These visitors are here for one reason: Commerce. Investment. Prosperity.

They see that we are on the way up.

They know that we have recognized and are harnessing the catalytic power of collaborations between and among business and industry and academia. In a word, it is brainpower. Brainpower produces commercial horsepower. And that horsepower drives our economic prosperity.

Ladies and gentlemen, we in South Carolina are players in the greatest economic competition the world has ever known. We must be bold, aggressive and think long-term. We must keep the people and institutions of South Carolina leading the competition.

It has taken years to get to where we are. But we must do more.

That means we must keep taxes low, reduce burdensome regulations and invest heavily in infrastructure.

We have the highest marginal income tax rate in the southeast – the 12th highest in the nation. Seven states have no income tax at all. Taxes of all kinds at all levels add up – little by little – to smother growth.

Beating the competition requires reforming our state's marginal income and corporate tax rates. That's why I have proposed a \$2.2 billion tax cut across all personal income brackets resulting in an average 15% rate reduction.

And that's why I commend the House and Senate for embarking on a comprehensive effort to reform our state's tax structure. Working together, I am certain that we will succeed and keep South Carolina winning!

This year, our vigorous economy created a budget surplus. My executive budget sends \$200 million of this surplus back to South Carolina taxpayers in the form of a one-time rebate check.

Surpluses don't mean we have to spend it all. A surplus allows us to prioritize the most critical needs in state government and then return the rest to the taxpayers!

We should commit to returning tax dollars back to our state's businesses at every opportunity. Last year, I issued a \$52 million dollar

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cut to the unemployment insurance taxes paid by our state's employers. This was made possible by the leadership and work done by many in this room tonight to reform and rebuild our state's trust fund.

The time has come to re-double our commitment to our state's men and women in uniform - veterans, first responders, law officers, firefighters and peace officers – through a full retirement income exemption.

The exemption for veterans is a key factor in the Pentagon's decisions on protecting and expanding a state's military bases and expanding and bringing new missions and troops to our bases. It's also an effective incentive to keep experienced law officers, firefighters, and first responders on the job.

We are now another year into our ongoing state retirement pension crisis. Our unfunded pension liability threatens to place unprecedented strain on state government if we do not take action soon. Retired, current and future public employees must have a pathway to retirement income security, with future benefits and costs that are both sustainable and predictable. Doing nothing threatens our commitment.

It is a fact that we have some of the strongest people in the country in the field of education.

For example, in 2001, Dr. Sharon Buddin of Ridge View High School, and in 2009, the late Lucy Beckham of Wando High school were named National Principal of the Year. Last year, it was Dr. Akil Ross, of Chapin High School. This year, we celebrate again, with Dr. Lucas C. Clamp, of River Bluff High School, being recognized as National Principal of the year.

They aren't able to be with us here tonight, but we thank them for exemplifying the greatness that South Carolina produces.

Ladies and gentlemen: we are building an international reputation for business growth and progress. Being perceived as weak in any part of our state in education is not good. But being perceived as not committed to fixing it is disastrous.

Not long ago, I had a conversation with Dr. Wanda Andrews, the Superintendent of the Lee County School District. A rural county. Education suffers there. Once grown, children leave, only returning for a family reunion or homecoming football game.

I asked Dr. Andrews what would happen if a new manufacturing plant offering 500 jobs were to come to her district. Dr. Andrews set down her pencil, took off her glasses and said, "it would change everything."

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Dr. Andrews, that is exactly what we are going to do: change everything. The words “Corridor of Shame” will be a distant memory!

Dr. Andrews, please stand and be recognized.

This will require a state-backed economic development commitment to bring jobs to these districts by providing infrastructure in rural areas – not only in water, sewer, and roads, but in school buildings and facilities. We must provide the spark.

My executive budget creates the “Rural School District Economic Development Closing Fund.” This fund will provide \$100 million dollars for our Department of Commerce to use as a “closing fund” to bring new jobs and investment to our poorest school districts.

We must also invest in our teachers. To attract and retain the best, their compensation must be competitive with their peers in the southeast and elsewhere. My executive budget calls for a 5% teacher pay raise totaling \$155 million dollars. This will increase average teacher salaries above the southeastern average.

But we can’t stop there. The primary funding formula for public education, the Education Finance Act, was established forty years ago. That and those that have followed have become outdated, inefficient, and confusing.

They fail to provide the accountability, efficiency, and transparency necessary for a modern means of measurement, to determine if taxpayer dollars are being properly delivered and utilized in the classroom.

Last week, Speaker Lucas and President Peeler and I called on the state Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office to objectively review South Carolina’s complex education funding formulas and suggest a new, more efficient and modern funding model for the General Assembly to consider.

Further, Speaker Lucas and Senator Greg Hembree will propose wholesale reforms to our education delivery system – eliminating burdensome testing, consolidating school districts, replacing non-productive school boards and reigning in the practice of social promotions in our classrooms. I support the Speaker and the Senator 100%. Send me these reforms and I will sign them into law.

But we can’t stop there either.

Our classrooms and schools must also be safe, free from distraction and violence.

It’s a fact: the presence of a trained certified law enforcement officer is the best and most effective deterrent against violence at a school.

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Local police officers or sheriff's deputies who serve as school resource officers are trained to spot, assess, and eliminate any potential threat. They train constantly. They immediately communicate and coordinate with local law enforcement.

Last year, we held a school safety summit of law enforcement, educators, counselors, mental health professionals, parents, and students to address the rise of violence in our schools.

Two recommendations were made over and over. One was to place a school resource officer in every school. The second was to provide access to mental health professionals who can train educators to recognize the warning signs of violent behavior in their students before it happens.

Some school districts cannot afford such personnel. Therefore, my executive budget ensures that every public school in our State has a full-time, trained law enforcement officer and access to a mental health counselor through the Department of Mental Health's school services program.

The time to act on this is now.

For decades, every family's goal was for their children to go to college, which meant a four-year college degree. Higher education was – and still is – the key to success.

But the industries have changed. The skills required in today's modern workplace require us to stay ahead of demand and adapt with rapid advancements in technology. Modern manufacturing plants and assembly lines have been transformed into intricate computerized environments driven by advanced robotics, artificial intelligence, and sophisticated logistical delivery systems designed to deliver finished products around the world.

This economic prosperity can also be achieved today through two-year associate degrees and a multitude of certificates from our state's technical colleges.

Our technical college system is the best in the country. Last year, our readySC program trained over 3,600 people for 82 companies. It is known around the world. My budget also triples existing funding for readySC, making more than \$19 million dollars available for training new employees for business in the next fiscal year.

Right now South Carolina has 60,000 highly paid jobs looking for people. High tech production; advanced manufacturing. The demand for workers in the skilled trades – plumbing, masonry, carpentry, and others – high paying jobs – is so great that our businesses have to go out of state to recruit them.

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High school students and their parents must be made aware that these new opportunities are readily available. My executive budget prioritizes funding for our technical colleges to identify and recruit local businesses to participate in collaborative partnerships with high schools; to create internship opportunities; to promote certificate completion. This will provide our local businesses with a pipeline of future employees who are ready to work.

My budget includes \$63 million dollars in additional dollars that are dedicated to workforce training and development. It triples new lottery funding for workforce scholarships and grants – to help students attend our state’s technical colleges.

But even with our growth, the cost and debt associated with higher education is becoming a barrier for many students and their families.

With ten years of tuition and fee increases, student loan debt in South Carolina has risen by 315% - the highest increase in the country.

I am proposing a one-year freeze on tuition and fees for in-state students at our public technical colleges, four-year colleges and research universities for the 2019-2020 academic year.

In exchange for freezing in-state tuition and fees – to be certified by the Commission on Higher Education – institutions will receive a 6% increase to their annual base budget. That will be their pro-rata share from a \$36 million-dollar appropriation my budget makes to the CHE.

I expect this one-year tuition freeze to serve as the first step toward a comprehensive reform of higher education funding and tuition.

Our state’s institutions of higher education play a vital role in our state’s economic prosperity. Their continued success is critical to keeping South Carolina competitive and winning.

We must also continue to invest in infrastructure. Our ports, roads, and rail are critical components of our economic prosperity.

In December, the South Carolina Ports Authority reported a 6.4% year-over-year container volume growth, with a record 2.3 million units handled in 2018 that marked the third consecutive year of record volume.

We’re only getting stronger.

The deepening of Charleston Harbor is one of our most important steps to accelerate our future prosperity. Working with President Trump and his administration, and with the assistance of Senator Graham and our Congressional Delegation, last year we secured an additional \$49 million dollars to keep the Charleston Harbor dredging on schedule. There is more to come. And remember, we wisely provided the first \$300 million dollars several years ago to guarantee the fulfillment of the project.

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Once this project is completed, Charleston will have the deepest, most efficient harbor on the Atlantic, allowing post-Panamax ships to carry even bigger loads in and out of South Carolina, spurring economic growth throughout the State.

This is an enormous competitive advantage, and to it we will add in the years ahead, a revitalized Port of Georgetown and a new Port of Jasper.

I'd like to recognize Chairman Bill Stern and CEO Jim Newsome, of the South Carolina Ports Authority for their vision and dedication. Mr. Newsome couldn't be with us tonight, but I'd like to ask Chairman Stern to stand and be recognized.

The elemental purpose of government is to protect people and property. Today we understand the many advantages of replacing recidivism with employment. We also know that more officers on the street means less crime.

My executive budget provides more than \$33 million dollars for law enforcement, corrections, probation, firefighting and other criminal justice agencies to use for pay raises, retention bonuses and hiring new officers.

It also includes an additional \$40 million dollars to the Department of Corrections to expedite security system upgrades and modernization, as well as critical repairs to damaged prison facilities.

Director Bryan Stirling's focus on workforce readiness among inmates has resulted in South Carolina having one of the lowest recidivism rates in the country. More former inmates are re-entering their communities with a job than ever before. South Carolina is a safer place because of Director Stirling's leadership. He is one of the most innovative and effective directors of prison systems in the United States.

Director Bryan Stirling, please stand and be recognized.

The "silent hurricane" of opioid addiction continues to pummel the Palmetto State. The death toll from opioid-related overdose continued to rise in 2017, with 748 opioid-related fatalities across the State. There were just 57 in 2014.

Last year, I declared a statewide public health emergency, mobilizing the full power of the state's emergency infrastructure in response to the growth of opioid addiction and abuse. And I signed what must be the most comprehensive set of laws in the country addressing this crisis across the spectrum of law enforcement, education, and healthcare.

For instance, our doctors are now required to educate minors and their families on the dangers of opioids before prescribing them; DHEC

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is issuing tamper-proof prescription pads; the anti-overdose drug Narcan is more readily available; and initial prescriptions are now limited to seven days.

I also established the Opioid Emergency Response Team, which in June released a plan consisting of recommendations on physical and public education, prevention and response, treatment and recovery, and law enforcement approaches.

Although there is still much to be done, this progress would not have happened without the leadership of our Director of the Department of Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Services.

Director Sarah Goldsby, please stand and be recognized.

“A healthy mind in a healthy body” was the classical ideal; today it is a competitive advantage. Unfortunately, especially in some of our rural areas, access to good healthcare is lacking. But fortunately, we know how to fix it.

As always, education and knowledge are essential to progress. But so is the convenient access to health care professionals. This can be done in two ways: physical presence and virtual presence. We are doing both.

Last year, I signed the law repealing the restriction which required nurse practitioners to work only within 45 miles of their supervising physician. Now they can go anywhere. You are now seeing them in drug stores, rural clinics and soon – other convenient locations.

Virtual presence is accomplished by telehealth, in which we lead the nation.

We are home of the Medical University of South Carolina, which is now designated a National Telehealth Center of Excellence – one of only two in the country. This recognition would not have been achieved without the General Assembly investing and prioritizing innovation and optimization in the areas of stroke care, obstetrics, mental health and urgent care.

Through telehealth, we can expand access to healthcare professionals, improve healthcare outcomes and reduce costs.

And there is another kind of health which we must address. That is the health of the public’s confidence in their public servants and institutions.

As we move forward together, we must reaffirm our commitment to good government. As elected officials, we are stewards of the public trust. South Carolinians must trust their representatives, and representatives must demonstrate they are deserving of that trust.

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Maintaining the public's trust in government, at all levels, requires transparency and accountability on how and why every single taxpayer dollar is spent.

The best disinfectant against waste and corruption – or suspicions thereof – is sunshine. That means stronger and expanded authority for the State Ethics Commission

Anyone paid to influence decisions made by state, county, municipal, or school board officials must be required to publicly register with the state ethics commission as a lobbyist. Public officials must be required to recuse themselves when a conflict exists. And public officials in all branches of government - at all levels - must comply with the Freedom of Information Act.

I ask my colleagues to take this fresh opportunity to bring all of government into the sunlight and restore and insure the confidence of all.

South Carolina's bright economic future and continued job growth require an abundant supply of clean and affordable energy. Without it, we are at a competitive disadvantage.

However, Santee Cooper is currently saddled with almost \$9 billion dollars in debt, over \$4 billion dollars of that debt from the failed VC Summer nuclear reactor construction project alone, with nothing to show for it.

This huge debt will have to be paid. Santee Cooper will have no choice but to raise rates on customers to pay this debt. Their largest customer, the electric cooperatives, will be required to pay 70% of it for the next 30 years.

I am honored to serve on the committee with members of the House and Senate to present potential solutions concerning the future of Santee Cooper. I ask that members of the General Assembly keep an open and objective mind when you receive this information. We must be deliberate and wise.

This land, as noted by explorers for kings and queens, is lush, fertile and brimming with abundance in plant and animal life. It is irreplaceable. The obligation and privilege of our generation and others to use it, cultivate it, develop it and also to protect it and encroach upon it only gently.

Our economic growth and the preservation of our natural environment are not opposing objectives which must be balanced as in a competition, one against the other. Instead, they are complimentary, each dependent on the other.



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To these ends, I recently established the South Carolina Floodwater Commission. It is unique in the United States. The commission's purpose is to provide guidance, solutions and opportunities presented by inland and coastal flooding and all that entails. Its scope will be global, to be applied here.

Such an effort requires extraordinary leadership. That is why I have asked another South Carolina leader to chair the commission. Noted attorney, former JAG officer and former commander of the South Carolina State Guard, General Tom Mullikin, please stand and be recognized.

Economic prosperity requires that we address water in a comprehensive fashion – whether it is flooding, sea rise, aquifer depletion, or upstream withdrawal. Make no mistake – a plentiful water supply is essential to our manufacturing, agricultural and tourism industries as well as our quality of life.

That means that we must stand firmly against all efforts to endanger the future of our pristine coastline, our beaches, our sea islands, our marshes, and our watersheds.

Ladies and gentlemen, that means we will not have offshore testing or drilling off the coast of South Carolina.

One final story about strong people.

For two and a half days last September, Hurricane Florence stormed across North and South Carolina – battering the coast with hurricane force winds, storm surge, and massive amounts of rainfall.

The winds were less than originally predicted; the water was many times worse. That rainfall sent almost Biblical amounts of water racing into and onto South Carolina, creating catastrophic flooding along the Lynches, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers, surpassing anything recorded in modern history. It stayed there for weeks.

Access to the Grand Strand was threatened by historic, rising floodwaters poised to overtake, washout and destroy the roads and bridges into Myrtle Beach, and they did. In addition, the threat of an environmental catastrophe was now on our doorstep with the certain over-topping of the closed Santee Cooper ash pond on the edge of the Waccamaw in Conway. Thus, began a remarkable feat of cooperation, engineering, science, hydrology, technology and collaboration. Four foot tall barriers were built on both sides of US 501 at Conway, saving that vital highway from certain flooding and breach. A four foot aquadam was erected surrounding the eight-acre ash ponds to keep potentially deadly coal ash and toxins from flowing into the Waccamaw

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River and the Winyah watershed, all the way to Georgetown. And potential breeches along US 378 and state highway 9 were blunted.

The participants? The men and women of the Department of Transportation and the South Carolina National Guard.

Secretary Christy Hall and Major General Bob Livingston, please stand and be recognized.

In closing, to my friends and colleagues in the General Assembly:

All of us in this building do not wear the same jerseys, but we are still on the same team. We will work together to ensure that future generations of South Carolinians are able to keep winning and prospering.

Now is the time to be bold, not bashful. Now is the time to act together. This year. Now.

May God bless you, the great state of South Carolina, and the United States of America.

#### **JOINT ASSEMBLY RECEDES**

The purposes of the Joint Assembly having been accomplished, the PRESIDENT announced that under the terms of the Concurrent Resolution the Joint Assembly would recede from business.

The Senate accordingly retired to its Chamber.

#### **THE HOUSE RESUMES**

At 7:53 p.m. the House resumed, the SPEAKER in the Chair.

Rep. KIMMONS moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:55 p.m. the House, in accordance with the motion of Rep. FELDER, adjourned in memory of Karson Bailey Whitesell, to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

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