**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 165**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Campsen, Graham and Sutton

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Introduced in the Senate on January 14, 2025

Introduced in the House on March 25, 2025

Currently residing in the House

Summary: South Carolina Conservation Education Act

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/14/2025 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal‑page 104)

 1/14/2025 Senate Referred to Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry** (Senate Journal‑page 104)

 2/19/2025 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Fish, Game and Forestry** (Senate Journal‑page 12)

 3/19/2025 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal‑page 11)

 3/19/2025 Senate Roll call Ayes-42 Nays-0 (Senate Journal‑page 11)

 3/20/2025 Senate Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal‑page 4)

 3/25/2025 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 32)

 3/25/2025 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal‑page 32)

 4/29/2025 House Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal‑page 5)

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=165&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/14/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/165_20250114.docx)

[02/19/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/165_20250219.docx)

[04/29/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/165_20250429.docx)

Committee Report

April 29, 2025

S. 165

Introduced by Senators Campsen, Graham and Sutton

S. Printed 4/29/25--H.

Read the first time March 25, 2025

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The committee on House Agriculture, Natural Res. and Environmental Affairs

To whom was referred a Bill (S. 165) to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws so as to enact the “South Carolina Conservation Education Act”; and by adding Section 50‑9‑980 so as to establish the South, etc., respectfully

Report:

That they have duly and carefully considered the same, and recommend that the same do pass:

WILLIAM HIXON for Committee.

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A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS SO AS TO ENACT THE “SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACT”; AND BY ADDING SECTION 50‑9‑980 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION EDUCATION FUND AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH REVENUES IN THE FUND MAY BE EXPENDED.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the “South Carolina Conservation Education Act”.

SECTION 2. Article 9, Chapter 9, Title 50 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

 Section 50‑9‑980. (A) The South Carolina Conservation Education Fund is established for the purpose of connecting youth with nature through classroom and outdoor natural resource conservation education.

 (B) The fund is eligible to receive appropriations of state general funds, federal funds, local government funds, donations, gifts, and grants.

 (C) Revenues for the fund must be remitted to the State Treasurer and credited to an account that is separate and distinct from the general fund. Balances in the fund must be retained and carried forward annually and interest earned on balances in the fund must be credited to the fund.

 (D) Revenues from the fund must only be used by the department for the purpose of connecting youth with nature through classroom and outdoor natural resource conservation education programs approved by the department, to include, but is not limited to:

 (1) funding for natural resource conservation education classes and programs approved by the department; and

 (2) funding for youth to attend outdoor natural resource conservation education programs approved by the department.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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