

NO. 48

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



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026
(STATEWIDE SESSION)

Tuesday, April 21, 2026
(Statewide Session)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

The House assembled at 12:00 noon.

Deliberations were opened with prayer by Rev. Jeff Lingerfelt as follows:

Our thought for today is from Psalm 33:10-11: “The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart from generation to generation.”

Let us pray. O Lord our Father, and our God; Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand. And the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed. But You O God, who sits in the heavens laughs, You, O Lord, scoff at them. Your plans are from everlasting unto everlasting. You thwart the schemes of the crafty, so that their hands find no success. O Lord, You are the Most High God who rules over the realm of all mankind. You have appointed this day, and also, we Your servants, have been providentially installed as governing officials over this great State. We pray for wisdom, and conviction to lead under your sovereign ship, this House Assembly. May we say with King Solomon, there is no wisdom, no understanding, no counsel that can prevail against the Lord. You are the Christ, who is God over all, most blessed forever. 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.

After corrections to the Journal of the proceedings of Friday, the SPEAKER ordered it confirmed.

MOTION ADOPTED

Rep. PEDALINO moved that when the House adjourns, it adjourn in memory of Karen Berry DeCosta, which was agreed to.

In Memory of Mrs. Karen Berry DeCosta

Thank you, Mr. Speaker,

Today when we adjourn, I ask that we do so in memory of Mrs. Karen

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Berry DeCosta of Alcolu, who passed away on February 9, 2026, at the age of 60.

Karen was a dedicated public servant, having retired from the Clarendon County Sheriff's Office, where she faithfully served her community. Beyond her career, she was a woman of strong faith and a devoted member of Clarendon Baptist Church, living her life as a reflection of her commitment to Christ and to others.

She was a loving wife to her husband, Rev. Michael DeCosta, a proud mother to her children, Morgan and Luke, and a cherished grandmother to her grandson, Tatum.

Karen was more than her titles and accomplishments. To me, she was a mentor and a dear friend. She was someone who offered guidance, encouragement, and wisdom, and her impact on my life is something I will always be grateful for.

Her life was one of service, faith, and compassion, and she leaves behind a legacy that will not be forgotten in Clarendon County.

I ask that these words be added into the Journal
Rep. Fawn Pedalino

INVITATIONS

On motion of Rep. TAYLOR, with unanimous consent, the following were taken up for immediate consideration and accepted:

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,
On behalf of the South Carolina Sheriff's Association, the Members of the House of Representatives are invited to a Legislative Dinner. This event will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Palmetto Club.

Sincerely,
Sally Foster
Executive Director

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss

[HJ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,

On behalf of the South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Members of the House of Representatives are invited to a Legislative Breakfast. This event will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in Room 112, Blatt Building.

Sincerely,
Stacie Smith
Executive Director

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,

On behalf of the SC Association of Council on Aging Directors, the Members of the House of Representatives are invited to a Legislative Luncheon. This event will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on the State House Grounds.

Sincerely,
Jay W. Ragley

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,

On behalf of Riverbanks Zoo & Garden, the Members of the House of Representatives, their staff, and families are invited to a Legislative Reception. This event will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Riverbanks Zoo & Garden.

Sincerely,

[HJ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Tommy Stringfellow
President & CEO

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,
On behalf of the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics Foundation, the Members of the House of Representatives are invited to a Legislative Breakfast. This event will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in Room 112, Blatt Building.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Taylor
Advancement Services Manager

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,
On behalf of South Carolina First Steps, the Members of the House of Representatives and their staff are invited to a Legislative Breakfast. This event will be held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in Room 112, Blatt Building.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn N. Richards
Government Affairs Liaison

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

[HJ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Dear Chairman Moss,

On behalf of the South Carolina Asphalt Pavement Association, the Members of the House of Representatives and their staff are invited to a Legislative Breakfast. This event will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in Room 112, Blatt Building.

Sincerely,
Jayson R. Jordan
Executive Director

April 20, 2026
The Honorable Dennis Moss
Chairman, House Invitations Committee
503-A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Chairman Moss,

On behalf of the South Carolina Cable and Broadband Association, the Members of the House of Representatives are invited to a Legislative Luncheon. This event will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in Room 112, Blatt Building.

Sincerely,
Keely Yates
SC Cable and Broadband Association

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Rep. BANNISTER, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted a favorable report on:

H. 5093 -- Reps. Caskey, Bannister, Long, Lawson, C. Mitchell and Yow: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 12-36-90, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF GROSS PROCEEDS OF SALES, SO AS TO EXCLUDE AMOUNTS PAID BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES IP NETWORK.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

[HJ]

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Rep. BANNISTER, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted a favorable report on:

H. 5208 -- Reps. B. Newton and Moss: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 12-36-2120, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM SALES TAX, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN UNPREPARED FOODS, THAT MAY BE PURCHASED WITH FOOD COUPONS WHICH ARE EXEMPT FROM TAXES, ARE NOT LIMITED TO CERTAIN FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Rep. BANNISTER, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted a favorable report with amendments on:

H. 4576 -- Reps. Bannister and Clyburn: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 9-20-10, RELATING TO STATE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO INCLUDE SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS IN THE DEFINITION OF "EMPLOYER."

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Rep. BANNISTER, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted a favorable report with amendments on:

H. 4589 -- Rep. Gilliam: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 4-10-470, RELATING TO COUNTIES IN WHICH THE EDUCATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SALES AND USE TAX MAY BE IMPOSED, SO AS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATIONS.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Rep. BANNISTER, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted a favorable report with amendments on:

H. 4477 -- Reps. Landing, Cobb-Hunter, Rivers, Williams, Luck, King, Gilliard, Waters, Henderson-Myers, Collins, Schuessler, Herbkersman and M. M. Smith: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "HEIRS' PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT" BY AMENDING SECTION 12-37-

[HJ]

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3150, RELATING TO DETERMINING WHEN AN ASSESSIBLE TRANSFER OF INTEREST OCCURS, SO AS TO EXCLUDE TRANSFERS MADE AMONG FAMILY MEMBERS TO CLEAR THE TITLE OF HEIRS' PROPERTY.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5549 -- Reps. Govan, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terrible, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE REVEREND DOCTOR ANGELA WILLIAMS OF ORANGEBURG FOR HER MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MUCH SUCCESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5550 -- Reps. Ligon, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman,

[HJ]

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Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE SOUTH POINTE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM FOR A SUPERB SEASON AND TO CONGRATULATE THE TEAM MEMBERS AND THEIR COACHES ON WINNING THE 2025 CLASS AAAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5551 -- Reps. C. Mitchell, Yow, B. Newton, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks,

[HJ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis and Wooten: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO COMMEND FLAT CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH OF LANCASTER COUNTY FOR TWO AND A HALF CENTURIES OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO EXTEND WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE CHURCH'S HISTORIC TWO HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5552 -- Reprs. M. M. Smith, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES EMORY MACE SR. OF CHARLESTON COUNTY AND TO EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS LARGE AND LOVING FAMILY AND HIS MANY FRIENDS.

The Resolution was adopted.

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5553 -- Reps. Ballentine, Kilmartin, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CHAPIN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY DANCE TEAM, COACHES, AND PROGRAM FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE 2025-2026 COMPETITIVE SEASON AND FOR THEIR CONTINUED LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5554 -- Reps. Gagnon, Gilreath, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin,

[HJ]

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King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MAIN STREET METHODIST CHURCH OF ABBEVILLE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR TWO CENTURIES OF FAITHFUL SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5555 -- Reps. Waters, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MAJOR NATHANIEL T. TAYLOR JR., HEAD GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH OF MILITARY MAGNET ACADEMY, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, EXTRAORDINARY COACHING SUCCESS, AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO THE

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

STUDENT ATHLETES OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON LEADING THE LADY EAGLES TO THE 2026 CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Resolution was adopted.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5556 -- Reps. Lawson, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terrible, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO CELEBRATE THE CHESNEE HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE STRENGTH TEAM ON CAPTURING THE 2025 SOUTH CAROLINA CLASS AA GIRLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AND TO SALUTE THE TEAM'S MEMBERS AND COACHES FOR SUCH A FINE END TO AN EXCEPTIONAL SEASON.

The Resolution was adopted.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 5557 -- Reps. Wooten, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, Cox, Crawford, Cromer,

[HJ]

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Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Ford, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J. E. Johnson, J. L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lastinger, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, C. Mitchell, D. Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Scott, Sessions, G. M. Smith, M. M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Waters, Weeks, Wetmore, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis and Yow: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CONGRATULATE ROBERT L. BANK, MD, ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

The Concurrent Resolution was agreed to and ordered sent to the Senate.

ROLL CALL

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

Anderson	Atkinson	Bailey
Ballentine	Bamberg	Bannister
Bauer	Beach	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Burns	Bustos
Calhoon	Caskey	Chapman
Chumley	Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter
Collins	Cox	Crawford
Cromer	Davis	Dillard
Duncan	Edgerton	Erickson
Ford	Forrest	Frank
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Gilliard
Gilreath	Govan	Grant

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Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Hayes	Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman
Hewitt	Hiott	Hixon
Holman	Hosey	Howard
Huff	J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson
Jones	Jordan	Kilmartin
King	Kirby	Landing
Lastinger	Lawson	Ligon
Long	Lowe	Luck
Magnuson	Martin	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	McGinnis
C. Mitchell	D. Mitchell	J. Moore
T. Moore	Morgan	Moss
Neese	B. Newton	W. Newton
Pedalino	Pope	Rankin
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rose	Rutherford	Sanders
Schuessler	Scott	Sessions
G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith	Stavrinakis
Taylor	Vaughan	Waters
Weeks	Wetmore	White
Whitmire	Wickensimer	Williams
Willis	Wooten	Yow

Total Present--117

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. SPANN-WILDER a leave of absence for the day due to medical reasons.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. OREMUS a leave of absence for the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. PACE a leave of absence for the day due to family medical reasons.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. TEEPLE a leave of absence for the day.

[HJ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. MONTGOMERY a leave of absence for the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. TERRIBLE a leave of absence for the day.

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 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(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 3197
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 GILLIARD, RIVERS and WATERS

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 3207
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 ATKINSON

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 3408
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 DUNCAN, M. M. SMITH and GIBSON

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CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 4624
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 BEACH

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 4641
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 LIGON and HIXON

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5057
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 GILLIARD, RIVERS and WATERS

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5201
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 ERICKSON

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5288
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 ERICKSON

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5362
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 HARRIS

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5363
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 HARRIS

CO-SPONSOR(S) ADDED

Bill Number: H. 5483
Date: ADD:
04/21/26 DUNCAN

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H. 5546--ORDERED TO THIRD READING

The following Joint Resolution was taken up:

H. 5546 -- Reps. Martin, Guffey, King, Ligon, Moss, Pope, Sessions and Terrible: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 4 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL DAYS MISSED BY FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON MARCH 5 AND 6, 2026, DUE TO A CHEMICAL LEAK ON PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE SCHOOL BE MADE UP, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW.

The yeas and nays were taken resulting as follows:

Yeas 105; Nays 0

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Atkinson	Bailey	Bannister
Bauer	Beach	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Burns	Bustos
Calhoon	Caskey	Chapman
Chumley	Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter
Collins	Cox	Crawford
Cromer	Davis	Dillard
Duncan	Edgerton	Erickson
Ford	Forrest	Frank
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Gilliard
Gilreath	Govan	Grant
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hartnett	Hartz	Hayes
Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Huff	J. E. Johnson
J. L. Johnson	Jones	Jordan
Kirby	Landing	Lastinger
Lawson	Long	Lowe
Luck	Magnuson	Martin
McCabe	McCravy	McGinnis
C. Mitchell	D. Mitchell	J. Moore

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T. Moore	Morgan	Moss
B. Newton	W. Newton	Pedalino
Pope	Rankin	Reese
Rivers	Robbins	Rose
Rutherford	Sanders	Schuessler
Scott	Sessions	G. M. Smith
M. M. Smith	Stavrinakis	Vaughan
Waters	Weeks	Wetmore
White	Whitmire	Wickensimer
Willis	Wooten	Yow

Total--105

Those who voted in the negative are:

Total--0

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

STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

I was granted leave from Session on April 21, 2026, during the vote on H. 5546. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of the Bill.
Rep. Melissa Oremus

ACTING SPEAKER HIOTT IN CHAIR

H. 5547--ORDERED TO THIRD READING

The following Joint Resolution was taken up:

H. 5547 -- Reps. Williams, Jordan, Lowe, Alexander and Kirby: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, THE STATE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AUTHORITY, OR THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY, TO TRANSFER THE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY IN TIMMONSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO THE CITY OF TIMMONSVILLE.

The yeas and nays were taken resulting as follows:
Yeas 100; Nays 0

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Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Atkinson	Bailey	Bannister
Bauer	Beach	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brittain
Burns	Bustos	Calhoon
Caskey	Chapman	Chumley
Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter	Collins
Cox	Crawford	Cromer
Davis	Dillard	Duncan
Edgerton	Erickson	Forrest
Frank	Gagnon	Garvin
Gatch	Gibson	Gilliam
Gilliard	Gilreath	Grant
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hartnett	Hartz	Hayes
Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Huff	J. E. Johnson
J. L. Johnson	Jones	Jordan
Kirby	Landing	Lastinger
Lawson	Ligon	Long
Lowe	Luck	Magnuson
Martin	McCravy	McGinnis
C. Mitchell	D. Mitchell	J. Moore
T. Moore	Morgan	Moss
B. Newton	W. Newton	Pedalino
Rankin	Reese	Rivers
Robbins	Rose	Rutherford
Sanders	Schuessler	Scott
Sessions	G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith
Stavrinakis	Taylor	Vaughan
Waters	Weeks	Wetmore
Whitmire	Wickensimer	Wooten
Yow		

Total--100

Those who voted in the negative are:

Total—0

[HJ]

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

STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

I was granted leave from Session on April 21, 2026, during the vote on H. 5547. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of the Bill.
Rep. Melissa Oremus

H. 3408--AMENDED AND ORDERED TO THIRD READING

The following Bill was taken up:

H. 3408 -- Reps. Haddon, Forrest, Gilliam, Ligon, Taylor, C. Mitchell, Pope, Magnuson, Pedalino, McCravy, Chumley, Hixon, W. Newton, Calhoon, D. Mitchell, Cromer, Gilreath, Duncan, M. M. Smith and Gibson: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 27-1-80 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN COMPANIES OWNED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY ANY UNITED STATES-DECLARED FOREIGN ADVERSARY MAY NOT OWN, LEASE, POSSESS, OR EXERCISE ANY CONTROL OVER ANY REAL ESTATE IN THIS STATE AND TO PROVIDE THAT FRAUDULENT TRANSACTIONS ARE VOID.

The Committee on Judiciary proposed the following Amendment No. 1 to H. 3408 (LC-3408.SA0001H), which was adopted:

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 27 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 27-1-80. (A) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Agricultural land" means real estate in South Carolina used or zoned in a manner that would permit the use of the real estate for an agricultural operation.

(2) "Agricultural operation" means any operation devoted to the bona fide production of crops, animals, or fowl, including the production of fruits and vegetables of any kind; meat, dairy, and poultry products; nuts, tobacco, nursery, and floral products; and the production and harvest of products from silvicultural activity.

(3) "Department" means the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

(4) "Foreign adversary" means any foreign government or

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nongovernment person determined by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to have engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and safety of United States persons, as set forth in 15 C.F.R. § 791.4 or such successor regulation, declaration, or statute as may exist from time to time.

(5)(a) “Interest in agricultural land” means any right, title, or interest, direct or indirect, in and to:

(i) agricultural land; or

(ii) any entity or other organization that holds any right, title, or interest, direct or indirect, in and to agricultural land.

(b) For purposes of this item, any interest that taken on its own or together with any other interest held in common or under common control does not give the holder of the interest the ability to possess or occupy the agricultural land in any manner or the power or authority to direct the conduct of the agricultural operation being conducted on the agricultural land, shall not be deemed an “interest in agricultural land” for purposes of this section.

(B). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all citizens of the state, on and after July 1, 2026, no foreign adversary shall acquire any interest in agricultural land in South Carolina.

(C) Any acquisition of any interest in agricultural land in violation of this section is void, and title to such interest in agricultural land is considered to be vested as of the date of such purported acquisition in the name of this State without any payment of consideration of any kind by this State. The foreign adversary purporting to acquire such interest in agricultural land is barred from making a claim against any party for restitution of the purchase price paid by such foreign adversary in connection with the interest in agricultural land or for any other kind of payment relating to the foreign adversary’s loss or lack of title to the interest in agricultural land. Any lien that has attached to the interest in agricultural land during the foreign adversary’s purported acquisition or ownership remains a valid lien against the interest during such time as the interest is held by this State except that such lien may not be subject to foreclosure during the period of this State’s ownership, nor may this State be subject to the terms of any agreement giving rise to the lien. This State may hold or dispose of such interest in agricultural land in any proper manner.

(D). Notwithstanding the provisions in subsection (C), if the foreign adversary has subsequently sold or transferred the interest in agricultural

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land to a person or entity that is not a foreign adversary, title to such interest in agricultural land shall be vested in the subsequent non-foreign adversary purchaser or transferee and is valid as if the purported acquisition of such interest in agricultural land by a foreign adversary has not occurred.

(E)(1) If an interest in agricultural land has been acquired in violation of this section, a county, city, or town attorney for the locality in which the agricultural land is located, the Attorney General, or any non-foreign adversary person that was a party to the void transaction or is a subsequent holder of such interest may file an action:

- (a) to eject the foreign adversary from possession;
- (b) to quiet title to such property; or
- (c) for any other appropriate action to ratify the nullification of the transaction.

(2) Any action brought pursuant to this subsection shall be filed in the circuit court where the subject property is located.

(F). This section shall not be applied in a manner inconsistent with any provision of any treaty between the United States and another country.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor and first applies after July 1, 2026.

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Rep. HADDON explained the amendment.

Rep. HADDON spoke in favor of the amendment.

The amendment was then adopted.

The question recurred to the passage of the Bill.

The yeas and nays were taken resulting as follows:

Yeas 116; Nays 0

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Anderson	Atkinson	Bailey
Ballentine	Bamberg	Bannister
Bauer	Beach	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Burns	Bustos

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Calhoon	Caskey	Chapman
Chumley	Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter
Collins	Cox	Crawford
Cromer	Davis	Dillard
Duncan	Edgerton	Erickson
Ford	Forrest	Frank
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Gilliard
Gilreath	Govan	Grant
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Hayes	Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman
Hewitt	Hiott	Hixon
Holman	Hosey	Howard
Huff	J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson
Jones	Jordan	Kilmartin
King	Kirby	Landing
Lastinger	Lawson	Ligon
Long	Lowe	Luck
Magnuson	Martin	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	McGinnis
C. Mitchell	D. Mitchell	J. Moore
T. Moore	Morgan	Moss
B. Newton	W. Newton	Pedalino
Pope	Rankin	Reese
Rivers	Robbins	Rose
Rutherford	Sanders	Schuessler
Scott	Sessions	G. M. Smith
M. M. Smith	Stavrinakis	Taylor
Vaughan	Waters	Weeks
Wetmore	White	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Williams	Willis
Wooten	Yow	

Total--116

Those who voted in the negative are:

Total--0

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So, the Bill, as amended, was read the second time and ordered to third reading.

STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

I was granted leave from Session on April 21, 2026, during the vote on H. 3408. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of the Bill.
Rep. Melissa Oremus

H. 3597--REQUESTS FOR DEBATE

The following Bill was taken up:

H. 3597 -- Reps. Robbins, T. Moore, Pope, W. Newton, C. Mitchell, Calhoun and Edgerton: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 17-25-65, RELATING TO THE REDUCTION OF A SENTENCE FOR SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE, SO AS TO REQUIRE NOTICE TO THE ARRESTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND ANY VICTIMS, TO REQUIRE A HEARING WITH FINDINGS OF FACT IN A WRITTEN ORDER, TO REQUIRE VERIFICATION OF SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OR THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, AND TO ALLOW REDUCTION OF MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES IN THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE.

Reps. LUCK, KING and Kirby proposed the following Amendment No. 1 to H. 3597 (LC-3597.CM0001H), which was ruled out of order:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by adding an appropriately numbered SECTION to read:

SECTION X. Article 1, Chapter 25, Title 17 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 17-25-90. (A) When a person commits a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60 or commits assault by mob in the second degree as defined in Section 16-3-210(C), and the trier of fact determines beyond a reasonable doubt that the offense was committed against a victim who was intentionally selected, in whole or in part, because of the person's belief or perception regarding the victim's race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, whether or not the perception is correct, the person is subject to additional penalties as provided in subsection (B).

(B) A person who violates the provisions of subsection (A) and commits a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60, or commits

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assault by mob in the second degree, as defined in Section 16-3-210(C), upon conviction, is subject to an additional fine of not more than ten thousand dollars and an additional term of imprisonment of not more than five years.

(C) The provisions of this section provide for the enhancement of the penalties applicable to underlying offenses. The court shall permit the prosecuting agency and the defense to present evidence relevant to the determination of whether the defendant intentionally selected the person against whom the offense is committed, in whole or in part, because of the person's belief or perception regarding one or more of the factors provided in subsection (A), whether or not the perception is correct. The court with competent jurisdiction over the underlying offense shall instruct the trier of fact to find a special verdict as to a violation of the provisions of this section.

(D) The additional penalties described in subsection (B) may not be imposed unless the person was indicted, either separately or as a separate count in the indictment for the underlying offense, for the offense pursuant to this section committed against the victim who was intentionally selected, in whole or in part, because of the person's belief or perception regarding one or more of the factors provided in subsection (A), whether or not the perception is correct, and the person was found guilty of the underlying offense.

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Rep. LUCK explained the amendment.

POINT OF ORDER

Rep. MAGNUSON raised the Rule 9.3 Point of Order that Amendment No. 1 to H. 3597 was not germane.

Rep. LUCK argued contra.

Rep. T. MOORE argued in favor of the Point.

Rep. MCDANIEL argued contra.

ACTING SPEAKER HIOTT stated that the amendment created additional penalties for sentencing concerning crimes committed with the motive of hate. He stated the bill concerned the lessening of criminal sentences due to specific actions taken by the individual after-the-fact of the original sentencing. He stated the amendment went beyond the narrow scope of the bill, and he sustained the Point of Order.

Rep. J. E. JOHNSON explained the Bill.

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Reps. MCDANIEL, RUTHERFORD, GRANT, GOVAN, J. L. JOHNSON, HOSEY, HART, WILLIAMS, COBB-HUNTER, KIRBY, GILLIARD, WATERS, GARVIN and DILLARD requested debate on the Bill.

Further proceedings were interrupted by expiration of time on the uncontested Calendar.

RECURRENCE TO THE MORNING HOUR

Rep. FORREST moved that the House recur to the morning hour, which was agreed to.

H. 4641--AMENDED AND INTERRUPTED DEBATE

The following Bill was taken up:

H. 4641 -- Reps. Pope, Gilliam, Wooten, Oremus, Chapman, McCravy, B. Newton, Martin, White, Schuessler, Ford, Jordan, M. M. Smith, Robbins, Gatch, Duncan, Lastinger, Ligon and Hixon: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 44-53-190, RELATING TO SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, SO AS TO ADD KRATOM TO THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES LISTED IN SCHEDULE I; AND BY REPEALING ARTICLE 20 OF CHAPTER 53, TITLE 44 RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA KRATOM CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT.

The Committee on Judiciary proposed the following Amendment No. 1 to H. 4641 (LC-4641.VR0001H), which was adopted:

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

SECTION 1. Section 44-53-2020(A) of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

(A) It is unlawful for a kratom processor or kratom retailer to:

(1) distribute, dispense, or sell any kratom product to any individual under twenty-one years of age; or

(2) prepare, manufacture, distribute, dispense, or sell any kratom product that:

(a) is adulterated with a dangerous non-kratom substance that affects the quality or strength of the product to such a degree that it may injure a consumer;

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(b) contains a poisonous or otherwise harmful non-kratom ingredient including, but not limited to, any substance listed in Section 44-53-190, 44-53-210, 44-53-230, 44-53-250, or 44-53-270;

(c) contains a ~~fully~~-synthetic alkaloid including, but not limited to, ~~fully~~-synthetic mitragynine, ~~fully~~-synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine, or any other ~~fully~~-synthetically derived compound of the plant *mitragyna speciosa*;

(d) contains levels of residual solvents higher than the standards set forth in Chapter 467 of the U.S. Pharmacopeia-National Formulary (USP-NF); or

(e) does not meet the labeling requirements established pursuant to Section 44-53-2030 and a regulation promulgated to implement the provisions of that section.

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

Re-number sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Rep. BRITTAIN explained the amendment.

SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE IN CHAIR

Rep. BRITTAIN continued speaking.

Rep. BRITTAIN spoke in favor of the amendment.

The amendment was then adopted.

Rep. BAILEY proposed the following Amendment No. 2 to H. 4641 (LC-4641.DG0001H):

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

SECTION 1. Section 44-53-190 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

(G) Kratom and any salt, sulfate, isomer, homologue, analogue, or other preparation of kratom, and any salt, isomer, compound, derivative, precursor, homologue, analogue, or other preparation thereof, synthetic or otherwise, that is substantially chemically equivalent or identical to kratom.

SECTION 2. Article 20, Chapter 53, Title 44 of the S.C. Code is repealed.

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

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Rep. BAILEY explained the amendment.

Further proceedings were interrupted by expiration of time on the uncontested Calendar, the pending question being consideration of Amendment No. 2.

RECURRENCE TO THE MORNING HOUR

Rep. MCCRAVY moved that the House recur to the morning hour, which was agreed to.

H. 4641--REQUESTS FOR DEBATE

Debate was resumed on the following Bill, the pending question being the consideration of Amendment No. 2:

H. 4641 -- Reps. Pope, Gilliam, Wooten, Oremus, Chapman, McCravy, B. Newton, Martin, White, Schuessler, Ford, Jordan, M. M. Smith, Robbins, Gatch, Duncan, Lastinger, Ligon and Hixon: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 44-53-190, RELATING TO SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, SO AS TO ADD KRATOM TO THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES LISTED IN SCHEDULE I; AND BY REPEALING ARTICLE 20 OF CHAPTER 53, TITLE 44 RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA KRATOM CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT.

Rep. BAILEY proposed the following Amendment No. 2 to H. 4641 (LC-4641.DG0001H):

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

SECTION 1. Section 44-53-190 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

(G) Kratom and any salt, sulfate, isomer, homologue, analogue, or other preparation of kratom, and any salt, isomer, compound, derivative, precursor, homologue, analogue, or other preparation thereof, synthetic or otherwise, that is substantially chemically equivalent or identical to kratom.

SECTION 2. Article 20, Chapter 53, Title 44 of the S.C. Code is repealed.

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

Rep. ROSE spoke against the amendment.

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Rep. MCCRAVY spoke in favor of the amendment.

Rep. ROSE spoke against the amendment.

Rep. MCCRAVY spoke in favor of the amendment.

Rep. FORD spoke in favor of the amendment.

Rep. RUTHERFORD moved to table the amendment, which was agreed to by a division vote of 54 to 45.

Reps. MCCRAVY, DUNCAN, BEACH, CROMER, GILREATH, EDGERTON, LONG, BURNS and FORD requested debate on the Bill.

Further proceedings were interrupted by expiration of time on the uncontested Calendar.

H. 5537--RECALLED FROM COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

On motion of Rep. HAYES, with unanimous consent, the following Joint Resolution was ordered recalled from the Committee on Ways and Means:

H. 5537 -- Rep. Hayes: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, THE STATE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AUTHORITY, OR THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY, TO TRANSFER THE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY IN DILLON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO THE CITY OF DILLON.

OBJECTION TO RECALL

Rep. CLYBURN asked unanimous consent to recall H. 4122 from the Committee on Education and Public Works.

Rep. CROMER objected.

S. 895--RECALLED FROM COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL, MILITARY, PUBLIC AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

On motion of Rep. SESSIONS, with unanimous consent, the following Bill was ordered recalled from the Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs:

S. 895 -- Senators Verdin, Alexander and Hutto: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 44-7-130, RELATING TO STATE HEALTH FACILITY

[HJ]

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LICENSURE ACT DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO ADD TO THE DEFINITION OF "HOSPITAL" ALL HOSPITALS THAT CONVERT TO RURAL EMERGENCY HOSPITALS.

OBJECTION TO RECALL

Rep. EDGERTON asked unanimous consent to recall H. 4671 from the Committee on Judiciary.

Rep. KING objected.

OBJECTION TO RECALL

Rep. BEACH asked unanimous consent to recall H. 5398 from the Committee on Ways and Means.

Rep. HIOTT objected.

OBJECTION TO RECALL

Rep. M. M. SMITH asked unanimous consent to recall H. 4260 from the Committee on Judiciary.

Rep. J. MOORE objected.

OBJECTION TO RECALL

Rep. HARRIS asked unanimous consent to recall H. 5183 from the Committee on Judiciary.

Rep. COBB-HUNTER objected.

H. 3556--DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate Amendments to the following Bill were taken up for consideration:

H. 3556 -- Reps. B. Newton, Schuessler, Guest, Taylor and Hixon: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 7-17-560, RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A POLITICAL PARTY TO HEAR CERTAIN PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ALSO HEAR PROTESTS AND CONTESTS IN THE CASE OF COUNTY OFFICERS, LESS THAN COUNTY OFFICERS, AND MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE THE FILING OF ANY PROTEST OR CONTEST TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A BOND WITH SURETY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR APPEALS FROM DECISIONS BY THE STATE

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; BY AMENDING SECTION 7-17-570, RELATING TO HEARINGS OF PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO EXTEND THE TIME IN WHICH THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MUST CONDUCT SUCH HEARINGS; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-80, RELATING TO MUNICIPAL PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT SUCH PROTESTS AND CONTESTS ARE TO BE FILED, HEARD, AND DECIDED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 7-17-560 AND 7-17-570; AND BY REPEALING SECTIONS 7-17-520, 7-17-530, 7-17-540, 7-17-550, 7-17-580, AND 7-17-590 ALL RELATING TO PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS FOR CERTAIN OFFICES.

Rep. HIOTT moved to adjourn debate on the Senate Amendments, which was agreed to.

H. 3768--DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate Amendments to the following Bill were taken up for consideration:

H. 3768 -- Reps. Brewer, Gatch, Robbins, Schuessler and Sessions: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING ACT 36 OF 2019, RELATING TO HIGHWAY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION, SO AS TO CHANGE THE SUNSET EXPIRATION PROVISION TO JULY 1, 2031.

Rep. HIOTT moved to adjourn debate on the Senate Amendments, which was agreed to.

H. 3974--DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate Amendments to the following Bill were taken up for consideration:

H. 3974 -- Reps. Calhoun, Bernstein, Erickson, Schuessler, Bauer, Guffey and McGinnis: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 10, TITLE 59 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE EVALUATORS TO EVALUATE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, OR THERAPEUTIC NEEDS, TO AUTHORIZE PRIVATE PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE RELATED SERVICES AT SCHOOLS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, TO SPECIFY THESE

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EVALUATIONS AND SERVICES ONLY MAY OCCUR UPON REQUEST OF THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE STUDENT, TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY NOT PROHIBIT SUCH EVALUATIONS OR SERVICES IN SCHOOLS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, TO PROVIDE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT A RELATED MODEL POLICY, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MODEL POLICY, TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL ADOPT RELATED POLICIES, AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS.

Rep. HIOTT moved to adjourn debate on the Senate Amendments, which was agreed to.

H. 3924--INTERRUPTED DEBATE

The Senate Amendments to the following Bill were taken up for consideration:

H. 3924 -- Reps. Wooten, W. Newton, Erickson, Neese, Hager, Bannister, Herbkersman, M. M. Smith, Pedalino, C. Mitchell, Bustos, Lawson, Guffey, Hiott, Taylor, Ballentine, Vaughan, White, Long, Ligon, Guest, Gilliam, Hartnett, Bailey, Landing, B. J. Cox, Hayes, Atkinson, Willis, Lowe, T. Moore, Davis, Hixon, Martin, Pope, Henderson-Myers and Robbins: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING CHAPTER 56 TO TITLE 46 SO AS TO REGULATE THE SALE OF HEMP-DERIVED CONSUMABLES, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

Rep. GATCH moved to continue the Bill.

Rep. HIOTT demanded the yeas and nays which were taken, resulting as follows:

Yeas 46; Nays 61

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Anderson	Ballentine	Bamberg
Bauer	Burns	Calhoon
Chumley	Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter
Dillard	Edgerton	Ford
Frank	Garvin	Gatch
Gilliard	Grant	Guffey
Harris	Hart	Hartnett

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Hartz	Hayes	Henderson-Myers
Hosey	Huff	Jones
King	Kirby	Lastinger
Luck	McCravy	McDaniel
J. Moore	Morgan	Reese
Rivers	Rutherford	Scott
M. M. Smith	Stavrinakis	Waters
Weeks	Wetmore	White
Williams		

Total--46

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bailey	Beach	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Bustos	Caskey
Chapman	Collins	Cox
Crawford	Cromer	Davis
Duncan	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Gilliam	Gilreath
Guest	Haddon	Hager
Hardee	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
J. E. Johnson	Jordan	Kilmartin
Landing	Lawson	Ligon
Long	Lowe	Magnuson
Martin	McGinnis	C. Mitchell
D. Mitchell	T. Moore	Moss
Neese	B. Newton	W. Newton
Pedalino	Pope	Robbins
Schuessler	Sessions	G. M. Smith
Taylor	Vaughan	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Willis	Wooten
Yow		

Total--61

So, the House refused to continue the Bill.

Rep. GATCH moved to recommit the Bill to the Committee on Judiciary.

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Rep. HIOTT moved to table the motion.

Rep. GATCH demanded the yeas and nays which were taken, resulting as follows:

Yeas 54; Nays 54

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bailey	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Bustos
Caskey	Chapman	Collins
Cox	Crawford	Davis
Duncan	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Gilliam	Guest
Haddon	Hager	Hardee
Hartz	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
J. E. Johnson	Jordan	Landing
Lawson	Ligon	Long
Lowe	Martin	C. Mitchell
T. Moore	Moss	Neese
B. Newton	W. Newton	Pedalino
Pope	Robbins	Schuessler
Sessions	G. M. Smith	Taylor
Vaughan	Whitmire	Wickensimer
Willis	Wooten	Yow

Total--54

Those who voted in the negative are:

Anderson	Bamberg	Bauer
Beach	Burns	Calhoon
Chumley	Clyburn	Cromer
Dillard	Edgerton	Ford
Frank	Garvin	Gatch
Gilliard	Gilreath	Govan
Grant	Guffey	Harris
Hart	Hartnett	Hayes
Henderson-Myers	Hosey	Huff
J. L. Johnson	Jones	Kilmartin
King	Kirby	Lastinger

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Luck	Magnuson	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	McGinnis
D. Mitchell	J. Moore	Morgan
Reese	Rivers	Rose
Rutherford	Scott	M. M. Smith
Stavrinakis	Waters	Weeks
Wetmore	White	Williams

Total--54

So, the House refused to table the motion.

Rep. HIOTT moved that the House do now adjourn.

Rep. GATCH demanded the yeas and nays which were taken, resulting as follows:

Yeas 67; Nays 44

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bailey	Ballentine	Bamberg
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Bustos	Calhoon
Caskey	Chapman	Chumley
Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter	Collins
Cox	Crawford	Davis
Duncan	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Gilliam	Gilliard
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Hart
Hartz	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	J. E. Johnson	Jordan
Kirby	Landing	Lawson
Ligon	Long	Lowe
Martin	McGinnis	C. Mitchell
T. Moore	Moss	Neese
B. Newton	W. Newton	Pedalino
Pope	Robbins	Sanders
Schuessler	Sessions	G. M. Smith
Taylor	Vaughan	Whitmire

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Wickensimer	Willis	Wooten
Yow		

Total--67

Those who voted in the negative are:

Anderson	Bauer	Beach
Bernstein	Burns	Cromer
Dillard	Edgerton	Ford
Frank	Garvin	Gatch
Gilreath	Govan	Grant
Harris	Hayes	Henderson-Myers
Huff	J. L. Johnson	Jones
Kilmartin	King	Lastinger
Luck	Magnuson	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	D. Mitchell
J. Moore	Morgan	Reese
Rivers	Rose	Rutherford
Scott	M. M. Smith	Stavrinakis
Waters	Weeks	Wetmore
White	Williams	

Total--44

So, the motion to adjourn was agreed to.

Further proceedings were interrupted by adjournment, the pending question being the motion to recommit H. 3924 to Judiciary Committee.

RETURNED WITH CONCURRENCE

The Senate returned to the House with concurrence the following:

H. 4957 -- Rep. Ligon: A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE TEN-MILE STRETCH OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 77 FROM SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 97 (EXIT 55) TO SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 9 (EXIT 65) IN CHESTER COUNTY "REPRESENTATIVE F.G. 'GREG' DELLENEY JR. HIGHWAY" AND ERECT APPROPRIATE SIGNS OR MARKERS AT THIS LOCATION CONTAINING THESE WORDS.

[HJ]

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ADJOURNMENT

At 2:43 p.m. the House, in accordance with the motion of Rep. PEDALINO, adjourned in memory of Karen Berry DeCosta, to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

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H. 3197	15	H. 5208	6
H. 3207	15	H. 5288	16
H. 3408	15, 20	H. 5362	16
H. 3556	30	H. 5363	16
H. 3597	23, 24, 25	H. 5398	30
H. 3768	31	H. 5483	16
H. 3924	32, 36	H. 5537	29
H. 3974	31	H. 5546	17
H. 4122	29	H. 5547	18
H. 4260	30	H. 5549	7
H. 4477	6	H. 5550	7
H. 4576	6	H. 5551	8
H. 4589	6	H. 5552	9
H. 4624	16	H. 5553	10
H. 4641	16, 26, 27, 28	H. 5554	10
H. 4671	29	H. 5555	11
H. 4957	36	H. 5556	12
H. 5057	16	H. 5557	12
H. 5093	5		
H. 5183	30	S. 895	29
H. 5201	16		