

South Carolina Student Legislature

Fall Session 2014



“Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility”



Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome each of you to the fifty eighth convening of the South Carolina Student Legislature in Columbia, South Carolina. I hope each of you find this session beneficial, constructive, and an enhancement to your knowledge of government and policy. I am pleased to welcome new delegates to our SCSL family and work alongside returning delegates to advance our organization.

I want to thank Emily Urban and the rest of the Governor's cabinet for helping to put together another successful year for the South Carolina Student Legislature. Above all, I want to thank the Executive Committee for their diligence in steering the South Carolina Student Legislature towards unity and growth while continually serving their peers. Many thanks are also due to the efforts of other SCSL leaders and advisors who make each session possible.

I hope your debate is lively, your legislation passed, and your skills sharpened. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you this week and beyond as you take the resources you gain here to the world beyond.

Matthew Thomas
58th Governor, South Carolina Student Legislature

South Carolina Student Legislature

Executive Committee 2014

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South Carolina Student Legislature

Cabinet 2014

Secretary of State

Melanie Locke
Erskine College

Supreme Court Chief Justice

Bryant Lewis
Coastal Carolina

Attorney General

Colton Smith
The Citadel

Treasurer

R. Dustin James
Francis Marion University

Comptroller General

Vacated

Fundraising Chair

James McManus
The Citadel

South Carolina Student Legislature

Office of the Governor 2014

Chief of Staff

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Clemson University

Press Secretary

Lauren Goodwin

Anderson University

Communications Director

Ashley Archibald

Bob Jones University

Governmental Affairs Director

Alex McHale

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Director of External Affairs

Christian Smith

The Citadel

Lowcountry Regional Director

Elle Danahey

College of Charleston

Director of Internal Affairs

Thomas Girona

Clemson University

Upstate Regional Director

Bobby Ley

Clemson University

Alumni Relations

Stevie Galicia

College of Charleston

South Carolina Student Legislature

Delegation Chairs 2014

Anderson University
Lauren Goodwin

Bob Jones University
Ashley Archibald

The Citadel
Dillon Kelly

Charleston Southern University
Dylan Gunnels

Clemson University
Emilia Urban

Coastal Carolina University
Dylan Fender
Julietta Marks

College of Charleston
Stevie Galicia

Erskine College
Melanie Locke

Francis Marion University
Breanna Robertson

Lander University
Kimberly Modica

Former Governors of South Carolina Student Legislature

Year	Governor	School	Miscellaneous Organizational Meeting
1956			
1957	Robert McNair	University of South Carolina	
1958	Robert Fogarty	Wofford College	
1959	Jim Creel	Clemson University	
1960	Jim Creel	Clemson University	
1961	William Sarchchte*	Clemson University	James Truesdale (University of South Carolina)
1962	James Truesdale	University of South Carolina	
1963	Mike Daniel	University of South Carolina	
1964	Pete Levintis, III	The Citadel	
1965	William Youngblood	University of South Carolina	
1966	William Yarborough	Furman University	
1967	John Ellenburg	Clemson University	
1968	William McDougall	University of South Carolina	
1969	Huck Nelson*	Greenville Technical College	Barney Blackwell (University of South Carolina)
1970	John Linton	Wofford College	
1971	Edward Woodward	The Citadel	
1972	Polly Spann	University of South Carolina	
1973	Gerry Hough*	Clemson University	Sharon Davis (Winthrop University)
1974	Lee Atwater	Newberry College	
1975	James Hitch	University of South Carolina	
1976	Eugenia Bettis	North Greenville College	
1977	Alvin Roof	Newberry College	
1978	Lemuel Gray*	Trident Technical College	Davis Watson (Francis Marion University)
1979	Steve Columbia*	The Citadel	Wan Hipp (University of South Carolina)
1980	Laura Harris	University of South Carolina	
1981	Joey Hudson	Winthrop University	
1982	Joey Hudson	Winthrop University	
1983	Ricky Wade	University of South Carolina	
1984	Tony Snell	University of South Carolina	
1985	Tony Snell	University of South Carolina	
1986	Steven Neeves	Coastal Carolina University	
1987	Jody Styron	Erskine College	
1988	Tracy Johnson	Columbia College	
1989	Hamilton Nelson*	The Citadel	Janie Randall (Columbia College)
1990	Gardner Jackson	Furman University	
1991	Jeff Fowler	Clemson University	
1992	Keith Melton	Clemson University	
1993	Dan Herren	Furman University	
1994	Melinda Diller	Presbyterian College	
1995	Todd Thayer*	Clemson University	James Duke (Coastal Carolina University)
1996	Jennifer Graziano	Bob Jones University	
1997	Stuart Cate	The Citadel	
1998	Bryan Menees	University of South Carolina	
1999	Adrian Scott Frederic	Clemson University	
2000	Frederic Marcinak	The Citadel	
2001	Ashley Walters	Columbia College	
2002	Luke Frans	Bob Jones University	
2003	Joseph Opperman	University of South Carolina	
2004	Mandy Kulcsar	Clemson University	
2005	Ed Sutton	The Citadel	
2006	Timothy Silvester	Bob Jones University	
2007	Phillip Paradise	College of Charleston	
2008	Jade Roy	The Citadel	
2009	Will Freeman	College of Charleston	
2010	Chandler Hudson	Clemson University	
2011	Anderson Rouse	Bob Jones University	
2012	Blair Bolen	Clemson University	
2013	W.R. Simpson, III	Francis Marion University	
2014	Matthew Thomas	Bob Jones University	

Transportation Empowerment Bill
Presented By Alexandra Arnold
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To ensure the safety of South Carolina drivers through redistribution of the jurisdiction of South Carolina’s transportation infrastructure.

Whereas, Studies report only 15% of all South Carolina roads are in good condition and over 47% of all South Carolina roads are in poor condition, resulting in South Carolina’s roads having the second highest fatality rate in the nation.

Whereas, Studies show South Carolina’s poor roads cost each South Carolina resident an average of \$255 every year in vehicle maintenance.

Whereas, South Carolina’s percentage of state owned roads (63%) is significantly higher than the national average (19%), and our percentage of county/municipality owned roads (37%) is much lower than the national average (81%).

Whereas, Insufficient state funding and the regulatory burdens involved with federal funding has prevented the South Carolina DOT from adequately caring for South Carolina’s transportation infrastructure despite being the most efficient DOT in the nation.

Whereas, Enactment of this policy would be in line with successful legislation on the state and national level.

Whereas, Transferring responsibility of South Carolina’s secondary infrastructure to counties will allow them to repair roads and bridges as needed instead of having to wait for the state to repair them. Counties have a better knowledge of which roads are used the most and will be able to repair roads in order of importance and priority. In addition, counties will be able to bid out jobs to local contractors, which will result in job creation and competitive pricing.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill the following terms are defined as follows:

- (1) “Secondary Infrastructure” shall be defined as any two-lane road that is not a main highway and/or under federal jurisdiction.
- (2) “Primary Infrastructure” shall be defined as any road that is a main highway and/or is four lanes or greater.

Section II: Jurisdiction of South Carolina’s secondary transportation infrastructure will be reassigned to the counties/municipalities in which they are contained.

46

47 **Section III:** Amend rules of the C-Program to allow counties to use 100% of their state
48 funding for county roads.

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50 **Section VI:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2014 upon passage by the General
51 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

**An Amendment
Presented By Ashley Archibald
Bob Jones University**

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Purpose: To allow for minor South Carolina Student Legislature elected offices to be available to more delegates.

Whereas, We want ensure the continuation of South Carolina Student Legislature beyond ourselves we need to encourage involvement from others.

Whereas, Those who may have become a member of South Carolina Student Legislature later in their college years may still want to be involved through an elected office.

Whereas, Minor offices are a great way for younger delegates to learn as they serve South Carolina Student Legislature.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Strike President *Pro Tempore* and Speaker *Pro Tempore* from the constitution in Article IV Section 8 to read:

A candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Speakers of the House, ~~President *Pro Tempore*, Speaker *Pro Tempore*~~, or Comptroller General shall have attended two previous sessions prior to the session in which the election is being held. The Fall Session during which the elections are being held shall not count towards the total of two previous sessions needed. Candidates for Lieutenant Governor and *President Pro Tempore* shall be members of the Senate during the session in which the election is being held. Candidates for Speaker of the House and *Speaker Pro Tempore* shall be members of the House during the session in which the election is being held

Section II: Create a new Article IV Section 9 to read:

A candidate for *President Pro Tempore* or *Speaker Pro Tempore* shall have attended one previous session prior to the session in which the election is being held. The Fall Session during which the elections are being held shall not count towards the previous session needed.

Section III: Renumber all following sections accordingly.

Section IV: This bill will go into effect immediately upon being ratified by a two-thirds majority of the member delegations of the South Carolina Student Legislature and declaration of the Secretary of State in accordance with Article XV Section 2 of the South Carolina Student Legislature Constitution.

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Nonresident CWP Amendment
Ben Nicholas
Bob Jones University

- Purpose:** To amend **SECTION 23-31-210** of the South Carolina code of laws.
- Whereas,** By amending this law an increase in revenue is possible through the sale of nonresident CWPs,
- Whereas,** This amendment could attract more vacationers and tourists,
- Whereas,** Most other states do not require qualified nonresidents to hold property in their state,
- Whereas,** This amendment could allow for bettering our relationships with other states,
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** **To amend Section 23-31-210 (2) to read:** "Qualified nonresident" means an individual ~~who owns real property in South Carolina, but~~ who resides in another state **with which South Carolina has reciprocity.**
- Section II:** This amendment will go into effect January 1, 2015 upon passage by the general assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Billy Kauffman
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To expand the sustainability of South Carolina’s energy consumption by encouraging the use of natural gas and the construction of natural gas distribution facilities for motor vehicles.

Whereas, Natural gas is, on average, \$1.50 cheaper per gallon equivalent than gasoline and diesel, and

Whereas, Many major companies are making the switch to natural gas vehicles, and

Whereas, South Carolina has only six (6) natural gas fueling stations, and

Whereas, The switch to natural gas will decrease energy dependence on foreign oil, and

Whereas, This bill will encourage the construction of the infrastructure needed to support the transition to natural gas and the use of said infrastructure,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For the purpose of this bill the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) “Natural gas” shall be defined as domestically produced gaseous fuel which can be used in vehicles as either compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Section II: The following will be added to **Section 12-6-3610** of the South Carolina Code of Laws: (A)(5) For purposes of this subsection, "renewable fuel" means E70 or greater ethanol fuel dispensed at the retail level for use in motor vehicles, ~~and~~ pure ethanol or biodiesel fuel dispensed by a distributor or facility that blends these nonpetroleum liquids with gasoline fuel or diesel fuel for use in motor vehicles, **and natural gas.**

Section III: This bill shall take effect January 1, 2015, upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

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An Ethics Bill
Presented by: Briley Hughes and Elliott Kelley
Bob Jones University

Purpose: To promote ethical transparency of public officials.

Whereas, According to the Center for Public Integrity, South Carolina is ranked 45th nationally in integrity, and received an overall grade of F on the Corruption Risk Report Card; and,

Whereas, It is essential for the citizenry to hold officials accountable for ethics violations; and,

Whereas, The status quo does not fully allow citizens to hold officials accountable.

Therefore, be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in Fall Session here assembled that:

Section I: South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 8, Chapter 13, Section three hundred and ten (310), Subsection B shall be struck and inserted to read:

“There is created the State Ethics Commission composed of nine members elected by the citizenry. One member shall represent each of the seven congressional districts, and two members must be elected from the State at large. No member of the General Assembly or other public official must be eligible to serve on the State Ethics Commission. The citizens shall elect based on merit regardless of race, color, creed, gender, or political affiliation and shall strive to assure that the membership of the commission is representative of all citizens of the State of South Carolina. Elections will be non-partisan and voting occurs concurrent with the general election. Candidates will be subject to the laws and regulations promulgated by the state election commission.

Section II: South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 8, Chapter 13, Section three hundred and ten (310), Subsection C shall be struck and inserted to read:

“The terms of the members are for six years and until their successors are elected. The members of the State Ethics Commission serving on this chapter's effective date may continue to serve until the expiration of their terms. These members may then be elected, subsequent to Section II of this bill, to serve one full six-year term under the provisions of this chapter. Members of the first, fourth congressional districts, and one of the at large members on this chapter's effective date are eligible to be elected for a full six-year term in or after 2014. Members of the second, fifth, and seventh congressional districts on this chapter's effective

46 date are eligible to be elected for a full six-year term in or after 2016. Members of
 47 the third, sixth, and the second at large member on this chapter's effective date are
 48 eligible to be elected for a full six-year term in or after 2018. Members of the
 49 commission who have completed a full six-year term are eligible to be re-elected
 50 once.

51
 52 **Section III:** South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 8, Chapter 13, Section three hundred and ten
 53 (310), Subsection D shall be struck and inserted to read:

54
 55 “The commission shall elect a chairman, a vice-chairman, and such officers as it
 56 considers necessary. Seven members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.
 57 The commission must adopt a policy concerning the attendance of its members at
 58 commission meetings. The commission meets at the call of the chairman or a
 59 majority of its members. Members of the commission, while serving on business
 60 of the commission, receive per diem, mileage, and subsistence as is provided by
 61 law for members of state boards, committees, and commissions.”

62
 63 **Section IV:** It shall be added to South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 8, Chapter 13, Section
 64 three hundred and twenty (320),

65
 66 The commission shall have the right and authority to investigate any South
 67 Carolina public official or employee when a written or electronic complaint has
 68 been received from an identified person. It is the responsibility of the commission
 69 to keep confidential the name of the informant. The commission, upon having
 70 found a complaint worthy of investigation, shall have the power to suspend an
 71 official pending a full investigation. If the commission has found a public official
 72 or employee guilty of an ethics violation, the Commission has the right and
 73 authority to:

- 74 A) Require the forfeiture of the value obtained in violation; and,
- 75 B) Fine the official an amount equal to the expense of the value obtained in the
- 76 violation.
- 77 C) Take any other action necessary including submitting all information gained
- 78 in its investigation to appropriate law enforcement agencies for purposes of
- 79 prosecution, or to the House of Representatives for the purpose of
- 80 impeachment proceedings, or both.

81
 82 **Section V:** Upon commencement of an investigation pursuant to section 8, any suspensions
 83 put in place by the Commission are affective only for ninety (90) days or if the
 84 individual is subject to a fine, until the fine is paid.

85
 86 **Section VI:** The Commission shall have the ability to sue and to be sued.

87
 88 **Section VII:** Any judgments pronounced by the Commission will be appealable to the Supreme
 89 Court of South Carolina, which shall have original jurisdiction.

90

91 **Section VIII:** The Commission shall be audited by the Senate and House of Representative's
92 Ethics Committees, the South Carolina State Auditor, and the auditors of the
93 counties of South Carolina.

94
95 **Section IX:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the
96 signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Kristen Ince
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To add a definition of “domestic violence” and increase the minimum sentence for domestic violence.

Whereas, Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women,

Whereas, Up to 10 million children in the United States witness some form of domestic violence annually,

Whereas, Daily in the United States, three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends,

Whereas, South Carolina ranks second in the nation for highest domestic violence,

Whereas, The South Carolina Code of Laws does not have a definition of domestic violence,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Additions to the Code of Laws:
 A new section will be added to South Carolina Code of Laws Title 16 Section 16-26. This new section will be numbered Section 16-25-11 and will be title “Domestic violence” defined and will read as follows: **As used in this article, “domestic violence” is defined as any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, kidnapping, stalking, aggravated stalking, sexual assault, sexual battery, or any criminal offence resulting in physical injury or death of one household member by another household member.**

Section II: Amendments to the Code of Laws:
Title 16 Section 16-25-20 (B)(1). For the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and must be fined not less than one thousand dollars nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars ~~or imprisoned not more than thirty day.~~ **and the court shall order the person to serve a minimum of ten days in the county jail, unless the court sentences the person to a nonsuspended period of incarceration in a state correctional facility.**

Section III: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2015, upon the passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

**An Amendment to the State Constitution
Presented By Margaret Stegall
Bob Jones University**

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Purpose: To amend the South Carolina state constitution to change the way judges are selected to the state Supreme Court.

Whereas, Whereas the current system for electing judges to the South Carolina Supreme Court allows for a conflict of interest between members of the South Carolina Legislature who are attorneys and the judges they elect,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: In Article V, Section 3 of the South Carolina:

- a) Strike the following: The members of the Supreme Court ~~shall be elected by a joint public vote of the General Assembly~~ for a term of ten years, and shall continue in office until their successors shall be elected and qualified, and shall be classified so that the term of one of them shall expire every two years. ~~In any contested election, the vote of each member of the General Assembly present and voting shall be recorded.~~
- b) The law shall now read: The members of the Supreme Court shall be elected by a majority vote of people of South Carolina in a non-partisan election for a term of ten years, and shall continue in office until their successors shall be elected and qualified, and shall be classified so that the term of one of them shall expire every two years.

Section II: This bill shall take effect January 1, 2015, upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Matt Ledbetter
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To limit the number of cases under the load of an individual caseworker in the South Carolina Department of Social Services

Whereas, No limits exist for the number of cases a caseworker for the DSS can have at one given time

Whereas, An overload of cases prohibits the caseworker from giving adequate care to the children and foster care parents under his/her supervision.

Whereas, According to the State Newspaper, DSS workers have been complaining for months about the excessive amount of cases assigned to them.

Whereas, The DSS recommends the amount of caseworker to be twelve to fifteen per caseworker.

Whereas, According to the Greenville News, the DSS has hired an addition 125 workers

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: For purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases are defined as follows:

(1) "Caseworker" shall mean any person working for the Department of Social Services who is responsible for the accountability given to foster care parents in regard to the nurturing and protection of the foster care children.

Section II: Insert into the code of laws Section 63-7-2310(8) to read: "The number of cases assigned to each Department of Social Services caseworker shall not exceed twenty cases at one time."

Section III: This bill shall take effect January 1, 2015, upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor

A Bill
Presented By Will Peek
Bob Jones University

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Purpose: To amend the current Palmetto Fellows scholarship requirements in order to provide financial aid to qualifying students pursuing an associates degree.

Whereas, South Carolina’s current unemployment rate is 5.7%,

Whereas, many of the jobs available in South Carolina are manufacturing jobs,

Whereas, this bill will allow students who are intelligent and hardworking to enter the workforce quickly,

Whereas, this bill will encourage growth for our state,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:

Section I: Beginning the 2015-2016 academic year, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education shall award the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship to qualifying high school graduates pursuing an associate’s degree.

(b) All high school graduates who meet the qualifications will be awarded the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship no matter if they pursue a two-year or four-year degree.

Section II: The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship is funded by the South Carolina Education Lottery.

Section III: This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2015-2016 academic school year upon the passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

**A Resolution
Presented By Brandon McGrew
Charleston Southern University**

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- Purpose:** To enhance the safety of South Carolina roadways through educational initiatives and higher-level requirements in order to obtain a beginner’s driving permit.
- Whereas,** More than 450,000 teens are injured in car crashes in the United States each year; 4,000 of which are killed.
- Whereas,** Drivers under 20 have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes.
- Whereas,** Car crashes are the number one killer of teens in the United States.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** In order to obtain a beginner’s driving permit, a person must first take a lecture driving class.
- Section II:** This class shall be offered in all high schools across the state of South Carolina.
- A.** Schools that already offer a driver’s education course to obtain a restricted driver’s license shall be able to use the same educator to teach the course. Said educator shall receive necessary compensation for teaching the class, as laid out in the stipulations of the teaching contract.
 - B.** Schools that do not offer a driver’s education course shall partner with a private driving education business, in which said business shall receive a state tax-break.
 - C.** This class will be one-quarter long for block style schools, and one-semester long for non-block style schools.
- Section IV:** A person is not required to take this class in school if they do not wish to do so.
- Section V:** This resolution shall take effect during the 2015-2016 school year upon passage of the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

A Bill

**Presented By Cameron Dominy and Michael A. Hammond
Charleston Southern University**

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Purpose: To ease the flow of traffic on low country roads through the creation of additional interstates, in order to increase tourism and trucking efficiency for the economic benefit of South Carolina.

Whereas, The intersection of I-26 and I-95 prohibits efficient navigation in the low country of South Carolina.

Whereas, Tourism and small business in the Charleston area is negatively affected by port traffic on the I-95 corridor.

Whereas, Port interests are negatively affected by overcrowded interstates which are produced by Charleston’s tourism-driven climate.

Whereas, South Carolina currently possesses one intersection where an interstate meets I-95.

Whereas, The implementation of northern and southern interstate intersections with I-95 shall decrease current traffic and wear and tear on and around the intersection of I-26 and I-95, whilst evenly distributing the flow of both commuter and industrial port traffic throughout South Carolina.

Whereas, The even distribution of traffic will bolster small business in suffering rural counties.

Whereas, The evolution of new infrastructure shall not unnecessarily burden the environment due to the use of preexisting highways.

Whereas, Based on estimates of highway to interstate conversions across the nation, the cost for construction and labor averages around 69,000 dollars per mile. For the given stretch of 226 miles to be converted, the projected project cost will be 15.5 million dollars.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) shall work to convert Highway 52 into a new interstate, from the intersection of Highway 52 and I-95 in Florence, SC, to the intersection of Highway 52 and I-26 in North Charleston, SC.

Section II: The SCDOT shall work to convert Route 64 into an interstate from the intersection of 17 South in Jacksonboro, SC to the intersection of Route 64 and

46 Highway 278 in Barnwell, SC. This same stretch of interstate shall continue from
47 Barnwell, northwest to the intersection of Highway 78 and Highway 278 in North
48 Augusta, SC.

49
50 **Section III:** Funding for this project shall be provided partially through Federal cooperation
51 due to Charleston's and ultimately, South Carolina's clout as an emerging and
52 vital port state.
53

54 **Section IV:** Fifty percent of the project cost shall come from state revenue and budget. An
55 estimated 7.75 million dollars over a structured five year period shall amount to
56 an annual state cost of roughly 1.55 million dollars.
57

58 **Section V:** Appropriations of these funds shall be determined by the South Carolina
59 Legislature through whichever methods are the least detrimental to the state's
60 interests.
61

62 **Section VI:** This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage of the South Carolina Student
63 Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Jaymeson Lane
Charleston Southern University

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Purpose: To increase safety and enable certain capable and properly trained individuals to protect themselves and others through the protection of their Second Amendment rights.

Whereas, Of late, gun violence has become disturbingly prevalent.

Whereas, Two reasonably recent tragedies, the Colorado Shooting and the Newtown Massacre, happened in so called “gun-free zones,” where firearms of any kind are not permitted, even by an individual with the proper training and certification, leaving the victims effectively defenseless, waiting helplessly until law enforcement arrives.

Whereas, For decades, statistics have exhaustively proven that stricter gun regulations are directly correlated with elevated levels of gun violence, and that the inverse is true as well. The country of Switzerland has arguably the least gun regulations of any stable, developed country, and violent crimes, those both with and without firearms, are so rare that the Swiss government does not even keep records of them.

Whereas, Even in the United States, relaxed firearm regulations have been linked to lower gun violence. One famous example is Kennesaw Georgia, where, in 1982, the town unanimously passed a bill that required every head of household to own and maintain a firearm. To quote an article written specifically on this town: “[Since passing the law] not a single resident has been involved in a fatal shooting.”

Whereas, By protecting the Second Amendment rights of private citizens, many such situations can be prevented, or at the very least mitigated and responded to more quickly. Opinions to the contrary have been factually, statistically disproven.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Public and private institutions in South Carolina may not prohibit individuals with proper certification, such as concealed carry permit, to carry a firearm.

Section II: Individuals suffering from psychological conditions such as PTSD may be required to leave their firearm in a vehicle while on the premises of private institutions.

Section III: This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage of the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

A Bill
Presented Jinae Vinson
Charleston Southern University

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- 5 **Purpose:** To ensure the safety of South Carolina drivers by encouraging the evaluation of
6 secondary roads in the hopes of adding street lamps where necessary.
7
- 8 **Whereas,** The cost of crash-related deaths in South Carolina over one year is about \$1.01
9 billion, \$8 million of that being medical costs and \$997 million being work loss
10 costs. One way to reduce the cost of crash-related deaths is to reduce the
11 possibility of accidents.
12
- 13 **Whereas,** Based on research by the University of Michigan, South Carolina is ranked as the
14 second most deadly place to drive. According to an online campaign to fix South
15 Carolina roads, one-third of the state roads are in poor condition.
16
- 17 **Whereas,** South Carolina residents spend about \$255 per year in extra car maintenance
18 because of the road system, and 1 out of 3 fatal accidents in the year 2013 were
19 attributed to dangerous road conditions.
20
- 21 **Whereas,** There are over 60,000 public road miles in South Carolina and the South Carolina
22 Department of Transportation maintains over 41,000 miles.
23
- 24 **Whereas,** More than 40% of all fatal car accidents occur at night.
25
- 26 **Whereas,** At night, not only is the driver's vision impaired, but wildlife roams, sensations of
27 sleep overwhelm, and drunk drivers are more prevalent.
28
- 29 **Whereas,** South Carolina Act 98 of 2013 provided approximately \$41 million to the
30 maintenance of secondary roads. The \$41million is used for resurfacing, but can
31 also include adding street lamps.
32
- 33 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
34 assembled the following:
35
- 36 **Section I:** The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) shall appoint persons
37 to evaluate the safety of the secondary roads and their need for adding street
38 lamps. Each evaluation shall be brought to the attention of the SCDOT.
39
- 40 **Section II:** The SCDOT Division of Maintenance (DOM) shall maintain responsibility for the
41 maintenance of roads and function in providing safe travels for the public, as well
42 as distribute the maintenance budget to areas needed.
43
- 44 **Section III:** The SCDOT Division of Maintenance shall allot each public works department in
45 the city or county the funds to install street lamps. \$5 million of the \$41 million

46 shall be allotted to fund the placement of street lamps in areas most needed. The
47 DOM shall assign certified electrical employees within the city or county to
48 install street lamps pertaining to that city or county. If no certified persons are
49 available, then the state DOM shall complete the project.

50
51 **Section IV:** Installations may also be funded by developers. Developers include but are not
52 limited to the following: neighborhoods, business, restaurants, churches, etc.

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54 **Section V:** This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage of the South Carolina Student
55 Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

**A Resolution
Presented By Justin Estes
Charleston Southern University**

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Purpose: To promote a more healthy, academically competitive, and athletic student population in the state of South Carolina.

Whereas, Public schools in South Carolina do not adequately promote a healthy lifestyle for students due to the fact that only one semester of physical education is required for graduation, and an overabundance of unhealthy and artificially flavored food is made available to students.

Whereas, Students’ academic and athletic prowess is hindered by the under-consumption of healthy food as defined by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010.

Whereas, The importance of proper nutrition is not being taught and reinforced to students.

Whereas, South Carolina has seen a steady increase in obesity, with 66.9% of adults being obese with a BMI above 25, and 15% of youth are labeled as obese with their BMI being over the 85th percentile for age and sex according to the CDC.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: All South Carolina Public Schools shall allocate their resources to purchasing more nutritious and wholesome foods by purchasing fewer artificially flavored food and drink with the \$140 million budget allotted for school lunches. Schools shall follow the standard dietary restrictions as laid out by the Food and Drug Administration to include more fruits, vegetables, and organic options.

Section II: All South Carolina Public Schools shall promote awareness of the importance of wholesome nutrition by providing the nutritional information of each item served in the schools, displaying the calorie count of each meal, and promoting the importance of regular exercise.

Section III: All South Carolina Public Schools shall also reduce the amount of artificially flavored food and drink available to students by replacing existing vending machines that offer heavily artificially flavored food and drink with vending machines that offer organic and naturally flavored choices. Artificial and organic shall be defined as the following:

- a. Artificial meaning made or produced by human beings rather than occurring naturally.
- b. Organic meaning of, related to, or derived from living matter.

45 **Section IV:** This resolution shall take effect during the 2015-2016 school year upon passage
46 of the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

**A Resolution
Presented By Kaitlyn Rogers
Charleston Southern University**

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- Purpose:** To provide South Carolina high school students with a program that informs them about the effects of driving under the influence.
- Whereas,** South Carolina is the third highest-ranking state for drunk driving fatalities.
- Whereas,** In 2012, 357 deaths occurred in South Carolina as a direct result of driving under the influence; 36 of these deaths were adolescences.
- Whereas,** Nearly one-fourth of the fatal accidents involving adolescences are alcohol related.
- Whereas,** Someone dies every 15 minutes due to an alcohol related collision.
- Whereas,** The Every 15 Minutes Program offers real-life experience without the real-life risks. This emotionally charged program, entitled Every 15 Minutes, is an event designed to dramatically instill teenagers with the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol and texting while driving. This powerful program will challenge students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** Every two (2) years, each high school in the state of South Carolina shall hold an Every 15 Minutes program.
- Section II:** Only juniors and seniors shall attend this program.
- Section III:** Funds shall be provided through grants from Every 15 Minutes, as well as donations. All 911 services shall be provided free of charge. To receive a grant, one must complete the proper paperwork found on the site, and be approved. Grants can be anywhere from \$299 to \$500, at which point it maxes out.
- Section IV:** Each school’s Student Council Advisor shall serve as the coordinator for the individual school. They shall work alongside the Project Coordinator and aid in all that needs to be done. Student Council members shall also be involved in the planning and setting up of this event.
- Section V:** An officer of police jurisdiction, such as a Resource Officer, shall be made the Project Coordinator. His job shall be to work with the Every 15 Minutes

46 coordinator at each school, aid in planning, be at the event, and speak at the
47 memorial ceremony.
48

49 **Section VI:** The Every 15 Minutes Coordinator at each school and the Project Coordinator
50 shall attend the 1-Day Training Course. This course is \$275 and shall be paid for
51 by the school or local police department. Each person will only need to take this
52 course once.
53

54 **Section VII:** This resolution shall take effect during the 2015-2016 school year upon passage
55 of the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Kelli Manigo
Charleston Southern University

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Purpose: To enhance the safety of all government housing tenants, and those in the immediate area, by increasing the restrictions on those who reside in government-subsidized housing.

Whereas, According to recent studies on violent crime rates in the United States, South Carolina is now ranked the fifth highest.

Whereas, Tenants of subsidized housing attract the attention of violent crimes.

Whereas, Tenants of subsidized housing tend to live on unstable income, therefore making them more likely to turn to drug use and violence.

Whereas, Studies show that tenants often have too many people living in the home and therefore violate the terms of their lease.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Each subsidized housing tenant in the state of South Carolina shall be administered a drug test once every three (3) months. The cost of this drug testing shall be included in the funding the state provides for the subsidized housing.

Section II: Any applicant for subsidized housing shall be subject to a background check prior to potential leasing approval. In order to receive approval, the state authorities shall first approve the background check. Tenants shall not be discriminated against on the premise of race, sex, creed, nationality, sexual orientation, etc.

Section III: All tenants shall be subject to lease validations in which they shall be required to sign a contract allowing the landlord to search the premises once per month. The landlord may not violate the personal property of the tenant, but must rather be in search of housing damage, lease violations, and/or health violations.

Section IV: Subsidized housing areas shall be included in daily police routes for those who patrol the immediate area.

Section V: This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage of the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

**An Amendment
Presented By Liberty O’Neal
Charleston Southern University**

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Purpose: To amend Section 56-5-3900, Subsection A of South Carolina law in order to align with Section 56-5-6520 of South Carolina law, and promote and attempt to ensure the safety of all South Carolina residents operating or riding in an open vehicle.

Whereas, Section 56-5-3900 currently states the following:
“(A) It is unlawful to transport a person under fifteen years of age in the open bed or open cargo area of a pickup truck or trailer. An open bed or open cargo area is a bed or cargo area without permanent overhead restraining construction.
(B) Subsection (A) does not apply when:
(1) an adult is present in the bed or cargo area of the vehicle and is supervising the child; (2) the child is secured or restrained by a seat belt manufactured in compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, installed to support a load of not less than five thousand pounds for each belt, and of a type approved by the Department of Public Safety; (3) an emergency situation exists; (4) the vehicle is being operated in an organized hayride or parade pursuant to a valid permit; (5) the vehicle is being operated while hunting or in an agricultural enterprise; (6) the vehicle is being operated in a county which has no incorporated area with a population greater than three thousand five hundred; or (7) the vehicle has a closed metal tailgate and is being operated less than thirty-six miles an hour.
(C) A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined twenty-five dollars.
(D) No driver's license points or insurance surcharge may be assessed for a violation of this section.
Never carry passengers in a truck bed unless they are properly restrained.”

Whereas, SECTION 56-5-6520 currently states the following:
“The driver and every occupant of a motor vehicle, when it is being operated on the public streets and highways of this State, must wear a fastened safety belt which complies with all provisions of federal law for its use. The driver is charged with the responsibility of requiring each occupant seventeen years of age or younger to wear a safety belt or be secured in a child restraint system as provided in Article 47 of this chapter. However, a driver is not responsible for an occupant seventeen years of age or younger who has a driver's license, special restricted license, or beginner's permit and who is not wearing a seat belt; such occupant is in violation of this article and must be fined in accordance with Section 56-5-6540.”

Whereas, Open truck beds do not have restraints or safety belts, thus, passengers are not only in violation of 56-5-6520, but they also put themselves at a substantially higher risk for injury and/or death in the event of an accident.

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Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend Section 56-5-3900 to read:

“(A) It is unlawful to transport a *any* person ~~under fifteen years of age~~ in the open bed or open cargo area of a pickup truck or trailer. An open bed or open cargo area is a bed or cargo area without permanent overhead restraining construction. (B) Subsection (A) does not apply when: ~~(1) an adult is present in the bed or cargo area of the vehicle and is supervising the child;~~ (2) (1) the ~~child~~ *passenger* is secured or restrained by a seat belt manufactured in compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, installed to support a load of not less than five thousand pounds for each belt, and of a type approved by the Department of Public Safety; ~~(3) (2) an emergency situation exists;~~ (4) (3) the vehicle is being operated in an organized hayride or parade pursuant to a valid permit; ~~(5) (4) the vehicle is being operated while hunting or in an agricultural enterprise;~~ (6) ~~the vehicle is being operated in a county which has no incorporated area with a population greater than three thousand five hundred;~~ or (7) ~~the vehicle has a closed metal tailgate and is being operated less than thirty-six miles an hour.~~ (C) A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined twenty-five dollars. (D) No driver's license points or insurance surcharge may be assessed for a violation of this section. Never carry passengers in a truck bed unless they are properly restrained.”

Section II: This bill shall take effect immediately upon being passed by the South Carolina Student Legislature and signature into law by its Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Alex McHale
Clemson University

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Purpose: A provision abolishing the Pickens County Blue Laws regarding the sale of alcohol on Sunday.

Whereas, Blue Laws only exist in certain counties in twelve states; and,

Whereas, It is not the position of local, state, or the federal government to tell individual citizens (21 or older) which days they are allowed to purchase alcohol; and,

Whereas, Alcohol may only be served to patrons past midnight on Sunday morning if they are members of a private club; and,

Whereas, These laws are out of date (dating back to the Prohibition era); and,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Local grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, bars, and convenience stores shall reserve the right to decide whether or not they wish to serve alcohol on Sunday.

Section II: Local bars and clubs shall not be forced to close at midnight on Sunday morning.

Section III: This bill shall go into effect starting January 1 of the year after passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented By Bobby Ley
Clemson University**

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Purpose: To prohibit the sale of cosmetic products containing plastic microbeads.

Whereas, Water treatment plants cannot filter out such small pieces plastic, most of which being less than a millimeter in size; and,

Whereas, Plastic (polyethylene terephthalate) never biodegrades; and,

Whereas, Products containing plastic microbeads pose a negative impact on South Carolina’s environment; and,

Whereas, When plastics absorb sunlight, they can chemically degrade to form toxic chemicals such as bisphenol A (BPA) and PS oligomer; and,

Whereas, Fish and birds mistakenly consume these microbeads, often causing death to the animal; and,

Whereas, Humans are most likely to come into direct contact with the toxins when consuming the flesh of contaminated fish and birds; and,

Whereas, There are many other natural, and often more cost efficient substitutes to these plastic microbeads such as ground walnut shells, oatmeal and pumice.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: That the term “microbead” shall mean any plastic component of any personal cosmetic product measured to be less than five millimeters in size.

Section II: That the term “personal cosmetic product” shall mean any article intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, or otherwise applied to the human body or any part thereof for cleansing, beautifying, or altering appearance.

Section III: That no person shall sell or offer for sale any personal cosmetic product containing microbeads.

Section IV: Violation of these provisions will result in a \$1,000 fine per occasion.

Section V: This bill shall go into effect starting January 1st of the year after passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

A Bill
Proposed by Bria Burke-Koskela and Emmanuel Ogbonna
Clemson University and Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To require all moped riders in South Carolina to have moped insurance and a driver’s license while operating the moped.
- Whereas,** Mopeds are more susceptible to being hit by a car because of its small size and a car’s inability to see them; and,
- Whereas,** A person whose driver’s license has been suspended for six months or less is not required to obtain a moped operator’s license or possess a valid driver’s license during the period of suspension when operating a moped; and,
- Whereas,** Currently, because South Carolina does not classify a moped as a “motor vehicle,” citizens don’t have to have insurance for their mopeds, and someone that is driving a moped under the influence of alcohol may not be arrested on a DUI charge; and,
- Whereas,** Moped drivers must have a moped license if they do not have a regular license, but the requirements are not as stringent as those for car drivers. The only requirements for a moped license are to be at least 14 years old, pass a 25-question test and pay \$25 at the Department of Motor Vehicles office; and,
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** For the purpose of this bill, “moped” will be defined as: a cycle with pedals or without pedals and with a motor of not more than fifty cubic centimeters. Its power will not exceed two brake horsepower and the motor is not capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed in excess of thirty miles an hour on level ground.
- Section II:** Mopeds will now be classified as a “motor vehicle” in the state of South Carolina.
- Section III:** Because of the new motor vehicle classification stated in Section I, moped drivers must have a valid driver’s license. They must also have moped insurance to cover accidental damages and personal medical bills if an accident may occur.
- Section IV:** Because of the obligations stated in Section III, individuals who have had their license suspended for six months will not be allowed to operate a moped during the time that they do not have their license.
- Section V:** This bill shall going into effect starting January 1st 2016 after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Proposed by Bria Burke-Koskela
Clemson University

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- Purpose:** To change South Carolina’s voting system from plurality voting to Instant Runoff Voting.
- Whereas,** The process of plurality voting in South Carolina requires voters to vote again after a primary election, in a runoff election, if their candidate did not win by the majority (over 50%) of the votes; and,
- Whereas,** Runoff elections are a sufficient waste of time and government resources (tax dollars), because it is very unlikely that individuals show up to vote in runoff elections at all; and,
- Whereas,** Ranked (instant runoff) voting will save the state government money because it will eliminate spending tax dollars on yet another election day; and,
- Whereas,** In the plurality voting system, voters are forced to make a choice on one candidate, and if that candidate does not get elected, their opinions and choices are not accurately represented; and,
- Whereas,** In the most recent June 10, 2014 primary runoff, voter turnout was only at 16% statewide; and,
- Whereas,** Candidates that are forced to participate in runoff elections lose much more campaign money than their opponents that may not have necessarily needed to participate in one; and,
- Whereas,** The use of ranked voting may, potentially, lessen the dependence on party affiliation in elections and force voters to focus strictly on the candidate and his or her platform.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** For the purpose of this bill, “Instant Runoff Voting” is defined as ranked voting in which voters will vote for their choice candidates by ranking them. Their first choice will be #1, their second choice #2, etc.
- Section II:** South Carolina will change its voting system from plurality voting, to instant runoff voting, therefore eliminating the need for runoff elections in the future.
- Section III:** This bill shall go in effect immediately upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

1
2
3 **A Resolution**
4 **Presented By Chris Yon**
5 **Clemson University**

6 **Purpose:** The purpose of this bill is to reduce the teacher shortage in the State of South
7 Carolina by providing free undergraduate education in return for two-years of
8 employment in the South Carolina Public School System.
9

10 **Whereas,** South Carolina Public Schools still operate without the optimal number of teacher
11 positions filled; and,
12

13 **Whereas,** If all positions were filled South Carolina students could receive a more personal
14 education experience with a small student to teacher ratio; and,
15

16 **Whereas,** If a teacher surplus were to result, schools could begin offering competitive pay
17 for talent providing South Carolina students with only the most qualified teachers.
18

19 **Whereas,** This program will also allow students, without the financial means to attend
20 college, to attend college as well as guarantee employment in the state systems
21 once they graduate.
22

23 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
24 assembled the following:
25

26 **Section I:** All Public College and Universities will be required to set aside \$400,000 of
27 received endowment for funding of the Future Teacher Scholarship program at
28 each institution. Each program will be monitored by a board of university
29 employees, and will be conducted by the discretion of the institution based on
30 financial need and scholarly ability.
31

32 **Section II:** High School students must apply for the Future Teacher scholarship at each
33 respective university. The application will be reviewed by the aforementioned
34 board and the student will be accepted based of merit.
35

36 **Section III:** After completion of an undergraduate degree the student will be required to apply
37 for a public school position within three months of graduation. If the student does
38 not gain employment in the Public School system within a year they will be
39 required to repay the entirety of their tuition.
40

41 **Section IV:** This bill shall take effect prior to the 2015-2016 school year, upon passage of the
42 General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Cody Sargent
Clemson University

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Purpose: To affirm South Carolina public college students’ rights and nullify any institutional policies that strip basic rights and/or outlaw otherwise legal items or substances.

Whereas, Students at South Carolina’s public institutions of higher learning attend school on public property and are educated by public employees; and,

Whereas, Said students supplement an institution’s operation through the payment of state taxes and tuition payments; and,

Whereas, Public lands, including college campuses, should be seen as equal to other public property; and,

Whereas, College students should be intelligent and mature enough to make decisions regarding their own public safety as well as the safety of others, just as other citizens in the state are expected to do; and,

Whereas, Products, items and substances deemed legal by state and federal law should not face other scrutiny from university administrations; and,

Whereas, Rights afforded to citizens of South Carolina and the United States should never be infringed upon based on non-government rulings.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Add following to Title 59, Article 3, Section 59-1-120.

(2) Rights of Public School Students
 No public institution of higher learning shall create a policy or statute that blatantly obstructs any rights afforded to citizens under state or federal law. These institutions shall not ban any legal item or substance from possession on any public property.

Section III: This bill shall take effect immediately after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Haydan Smith
Clemson University

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Purpose: To alter the laws regarding work performed on Sundays.

Whereas: The current laws are only applicable to 1:30 pm on Sundays; and,

Whereas: Businesses may choose to close their doors on Sundays, i.e. Chick-Fil-A; and,

Whereas: Many laws were passed afterwards including exemptions to this outdated law, instead of rewriting the original law, Section 53-1-40; and,

Whereas: Another, more vague section exists stating: “The provisions of Sections 53-1-40 to 53-1-80 shall not be applicable to or affect the carrying on of any business or the rendering of any service which was lawful on April 7, 1962,” allowing some businesses to still operate even though it is considered a public nuisance to work on Sunday.

Therefore: Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature, assembled in regular session, the following:

Section I: The following Code Sections will be struck from the South Carolina Code of Laws:
~~SECTION 53-1-5. Provisions inapplicable after 1:30 p.m. on Sunday; rights of employees, lessees, and franchisees to refuse to work; discrimination against persons who worship on Saturday prohibited.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-6. Failure of law enforcement officer to enforce provisions of chapter.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-10. Permit required for holding sports and entertainment events.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-15. Certain automobile races exempt from prohibitions of section 53-1-10.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-20. College and university campuses exempt from prohibition on Sunday public sports and pastimes.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-30. Amusement parks and certain fairs exempt from prohibition on Sunday public sports and pastimes.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-40. Unlawful to work on Sunday.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-50. Exceptions to prohibition on Sunday work.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-60. Sale of certain items on Sunday prohibited.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-70. Penalties for violating prohibition on Sunday work.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-80. Sunday work declared public nuisance; injunctive relief; time off to attend church.~~
~~SECTION 53-1-90. Prohibitions on Sunday work and sales shall not affect certain businesses.~~

45 ~~SECTION 53-1-100. Operation of machine shops exempt from chapter;~~
 46 ~~conscientious opposition to Sunday work.~~
 47 ~~SECTION 53-1-110. Manufacture or finishing of textile products exempt from~~
 48 ~~chapter; conscientious opposition to Sunday work.~~
 49 ~~SECTION 53-1-120. Employment of children in mercantile or manufacturing~~
 50 ~~establishments on Sunday; conscientious opposition to Sunday work; "mercantile~~
 51 ~~establishment" defined.~~
 52 ~~SECTION 53-1-130. Exceptions for manufacturing plants requiring continuous~~
 53 ~~operation.~~
 54 ~~SECTION 53-1-140. Manufacturing of bakery products as requiring continuous~~
 55 ~~operation.~~
 56 ~~SECTION 53-1-150. Exemption of certain counties; rights of employees, lessees,~~
 57 ~~and franchisees to refuse to work; discrimination against persons who worship on~~
 58 ~~Saturday prohibited.~~
 59 ~~SECTION 53-1-160. Suspension of Sunday work prohibitions.~~

60
 61 **Section II:** A new law, Section 53-1-170 will be written as follows:
 62 No person or business shall be required to work on a Sunday who is
 63 conscientiously opposed to Sunday work.
 64

65 **Section III:** The bill shall take effect following passage by the General Assembly and the
 66 signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Jonathan Patton
Clemson University

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Purpose: To amend the current South Carolina Code of Laws Section 44-53-190, to remove marijuana from the Schedule I category of drugs and move it to the Schedule III category of drugs in Section 44-53-230.

Whereas, Schedule I drugs are listed as drugs that have a high potential for abuse, no accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and a lack of accepted safety for use in treatment under medical supervision; and,

Whereas, There are 23 states that legally use medical marijuana within their borders; and,

Whereas, There has never been a recorded fatality or experience of withdrawal due to marijuana use, unlike the other substances listed in Schedule I; and,

Whereas, Schedule III drugs are listed as drugs that have a potential for abuse less than the substances listed in Schedules I and II, have a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and abuse of the substance may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence; and,

Whereas, based on the facts listed above and the requirements regarding Schedule III drugs, marijuana would be much more fitting in the Schedule III drugs category.

Therefore, Be it resolved by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: **Section 44-53-190 (D)** be amended to read as follows: (D) Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following hallucinogenic substances, their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, unless specifically excepted, whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

1. 3,4-methylenedioxy amphetamine
2. 5-methoxy-3,4-methylenedioxy amphetamine
3. 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)
4. 3,4,5-trimethoxy amphetamine
5. Bufotenine
6. Diethyltryptamine (DET)
7. Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)
8. 4-methyl-2,5-dimethoxyamphetamine (STP)
9. Ibogaine
10. Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)
11. ~~Marijuana~~
12. Mescaline

- 46 13. Peyote
- 47 14. N-ethyl-3-piperidyl benzilate
- 48 15. N-methyl-3-piperidyl benzilate
- 49 16. Psilocybin
- 50 17. Psilocyn
- 51 18. Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
- 52 19. 2,5-dimethoxyamphetamine
- 53 20. 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyamphetamine
- 54 21. 4-Methoxyamphetamine
- 55 22. Thiophene analog of phencyclidine
- 56 23. Parahexyl

57
 58 **Section II:** **Section 44-53-230** to be amended as follows: (a) The controlled substances listed
 59 in this section are included in Schedule III.

60 (b) Any material, compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity
 61 of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous
 62 system:

- 63 1. Benzphetamine
- 64 2. Chlorphentermine
- 65 3. Clortermine
- 66 4. ~~(Deleted)~~

67 **4. Marijuana**

- 68 5. Phendimetrazine

69 (c) Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material,
 70 compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following
 71 substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system:

- 72 1. any compound, mixture, or preparation containing amobarbital, secobarbital,
 73 pentobarbital or any salt thereof and one or more other active ingredients which
 74 are not listed in any schedule;
- 75 2. any suppository dosage form containing amobarbital, secobarbital,
 76 pentobarbital, or any salt of any of these drugs and approved by the United States
 77 Food and Drug Administration for marketing only as a suppository; 3. any
 78 substance which contains any quantity of a derivative or barbituric acid or any salt
 79 thereof;
- 80 4. Chlorhexadol;
- 81 5. Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid, and its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers
 82 contained in a drug product for which an application has been approved under
 83 Section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act; 6. Glutehimide;
- 84 7. Lysergic Acid;
- 85 8. Lysergic Acid Amide;
- 86 9. Methyprylon;
- 87 10. Sulfondiethylmethane;
- 88 11. Sulfonethylmethane;
- 89 12. Sulfonmethane.

- 90 (d) Nalorphene

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Section III: This bill shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Resolution
By Justin Smith
Clemson University**

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- Purpose:** To require all school districts in the state to offer non-compulsory universal pre-kindergarten.
- Whereas,** South Carolina is ranked 49th in high school graduation rates; and,
- Whereas,** Studies have shown that students who attend pre-kindergarten begin school more ready to learn than their fellow students; and,
- Whereas,** Studies have shown Georgia’s universal pre-kindergarten program contributed to closing the achievement gap between children before the program; and,
- Whereas,** The High/Scope longitudinal study found that low-income African-American children randomly selected to participate in a comprehensive pre-kindergarten program showed remarkable long-term results regarding educational progress, delinquency, and socioeconomic standing, resulting in 77% of participants eventually graduating from high school, versus 60% from the control group; and,
- Whereas,** Studies have shown individuals who participated in a pre-kindergarten program have a higher incomes later in life than their peers who did not participate.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** The universal pre-kindergarten curriculum will be written by the South Carolina Board of Education.
- Section II:** All school districts throughout the state will have implemented this program by August 2017.
- Section III:** This program will be funded through a 1% increase to the state sales tax with the exemption of groceries and prescription drugs.
- Section IV:** This resolution will take effect immediately upon the passage by the General Assembly.

A Bill
Presented by Mandy Nerone
Clemson University

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Purpose: To ban the use of laptops, cell phones, and electronic tablets by law enforcement officers while operating a motor vehicle.

Whereas, it has been recently outlawed for operators of motor vehicles to text and drive; and,

Whereas, law enforcement officers are considered operators of motor vehicles by law; and,

Whereas, law enforcement officers should be held to the same standard as all other citizens; and,

Whereas, this would further enforce the existing law; and,

Whereas, it would make operators of motor vehicles, pedestrians, and the general public safer.

Therefore, be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: All law enforcement officers should abide by existing law pertaining to the use of electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle.

Section II: This bill shall take effect January 1st, 2015 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**A Resolution
Presented by Matt Castello
Clemson University**

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Purpose: To ensure that each alcoholic beverage for sale in our state contains the alcohol content on the individual liquid container.

Whereas, As it stands now, although alcohol content may be on the pack of alcohol, not all alcoholic beverages contain the alcohol content on each individual liquid container; and,

Whereas, Understanding how much alcohol content is in an individual liquid container helps an individual person determine how much of a specific liquid he or she may consume during any specific time period; and,

Whereas, Placing the alcohol content of each individual liquid container would not be an overly burdensome cost for the State; and,

Whereas, Placing the alcohol content of each individual liquid container might have some positive effect the general awareness and knowledge of drinkers within the state.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Add to Section 64-1-180 of the South Carolina Code of Laws this phrase:
“Any liquid container for sale shall include on some part of the container the alcohol content for that specific container.”

Section II: “Liquid container” shall be defined as a can of any size, bottle of any size, jug of any size, mug of any size, flask of any size or keg.

Section III: The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) will be in charge of the totality of this bill. State and local police departments will also be in charge of enforcing and keeping an eye on this new enactment.

Section IV: While SLED and state and local police departments will be responsible for the supervision of this new section of the code of laws, businesses will not be allowed to sell any alcohol which doesn’t have alcohol contents explicitly listed on each individual liquid container. If businesses are found to not be abiding by this law, they will be fined sums of \$1,500 for the first offense, \$3,000 for the second offense, and \$4,500 for the third offense. Should there be a fourth offense or more, there will be a process to review whether the business shall remain in operation.

46 **Section V:** The penalty money paid for violations of this law shall go directly toward the
47 South Carolina Department of Education to be used how that department sees fit.
48

49 **Section VI:** Should an alcohol conglomerate, such as Budweiser®, fail to comply by these
50 standards, it shall be the responsibility of the South Carolina Law Enforcement
51 Division to contact said chain to discuss the repercussions of continued neglect of
52 this law. Should the aforementioned alcohol entity then continue to neglect these
53 laws, they will be subject to discontinuation of the sale of their product in this
54 state.
55

56 **Section V:** This resolution shall take effect in the South Carolina Code of Laws at the turn of
57 the calendar year, January 1, 2015. This new law will be in effect for businesses
58 and alcohol conglomerates starting June 1, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Meghan Francis
Clemson University

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Purpose: To permit physician assisted suicide to those given life without parole.

Whereas, Inmates who are sentenced to life in prison are allowed to make this decision; and,

Whereas, Inmates must receive authorization from a medical professional to proceed with physician assisted suicide; and,

Whereas, Inmates are required to serve at least three years of their sentence before exploring this option; and,

Whereas, Belgium now allows their inmates the right to physician assisted suicide; and,

Whereas, Physician assisted allows the inmate to die peacefully and under their own will.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: The State of South Carolina shall allow inmates given life without parole the option of physician assisted suicide after serving a three year minimum sentence.

Section II: The Department of Justice will be in charge of regulating such optional deaths.

Section III: This bill shall go into effect starting January 1 of the year after passage by the General Assembly and signature by the Governor.

**A Bill
Presented By Thomas Gironda
Clemson University**

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Purpose: To instill a penalty in Chapter 17 of Title 23 of the South Carolina Code of Laws against police officers and agents of the state who wrongly kill family pets.

Whereas, There have been escalating cases nationally of police officers wrongly discharging their weapons to kill non-threatening household pets; and,

Whereas, There are currently no officially-kept records on exactly how many family pets are killed by police; and,

Whereas, “Use of force against animals” statistics from several large cities show a notable increase, such as in New York City, where the yearly number of dog shootings by police has risen from an average in the 40s during the 1990s to an average in the 80s now; and,

Whereas, Police investigations into disputed shootings are often performed by the same department that the shooting came out of; and,

Whereas, No legal recourse currently exists for families who have had an animal wrongly killed against the police, although at worst a pet is personal property and at most a member of the family;

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session:

Section I: A penalty is added to Chapter 17 of the South Carolina Code of Laws that lays out punishment for wrongly killing a family pet as:

Section 23-17-140. Penalties for wrongful discharge of a weapon at a pet.

After a shooting, the officer is placed on administrative, unpaid leave upon completion of an independent investigation into the shooting.

If the officer is cleared of any wrongdoing, s/he is immediately eligible to return to the field, and shall receive payment for administrative duties performed during suspension.

If the officer is found guilty, an unpaid suspension and permanent note in their file shall be recorded, with escalating punishment for any additional instances.

If three confirmed instances of animal abuse or wrongfully discharging a weapon at an animal accumulate against an officer, said officer will be terminated.

46 **Section VI:** This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage in General Assembly
47 and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Zachariah Talley
Clemson University

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Purpose: To build tollbooths along Interstate I-95 at the three exits which are primarily used to go to Myrtle Beach and to use the funds obtained through this to pay for maintenance and expansion of South Carolina’s interstate systems.

Whereas, there are currently no tolls on I-95 going into Myrtle Beach; and,

Whereas, an average of 14 million non-residents visit Myrtle Beach every year; and,

Whereas, South Carolina citizens would be exempt from paying this toll; and,

Whereas, a \$2.50 Tollbooth charge for non-residents when both exiting and entering I-95 along the three exits most used by non-residents to visit Myrtle Beach is not unreasonable; and,

Whereas, this would generate approximately 70 million dollars a year for the SCDOT; and,

Whereas, the money generated by the Toll-Roads would pay for themselves; and,

Whereas, the current interstate systems in South Carolina are hindering economic development; and,

Whereas, SCDOT does not have reliable, sustainable, and large sources of income; and,

Whereas, this money could be used to pay for the maintenance of Interstates in South Carolina; and,

Whereas, this money could also be used to expand the number of lanes on highly frequented Interstates in South Carolina such as I-85, I-77, and I-26; and,

Whereas, having money specifically delegated to the interstates in South Carolina would free up more funding for non-interstate road systems in South Carolina such as Highways and residential streets.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: South Carolina Department of Transportation will create a plan and budget for building and installing the Tollbooth’s and submit it to the South Carolina House of Representatives.

- 44 **Section II:** The State Legislature will allot the amount of money requested by the SCDOT for
45 this project on the condition that it will be paid back with the first earnings of the
46 Toll system.
- 47 **Section III:** The SCDOT will design, create, and install the Tollbooth's themselves and not
48 bid out the project to a private company in order to reduce potential
49 miscommunications and maintain the largest amount of accountability between
50 SCDOT and the South Carolina State Legislature.
51
- 52 **Section IV:** The SCDOT will install the Tollbooths when it is not tourist season and will
53 install them one at a time so as to minimize the impact on traffic congestion.
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- 55 **Section V:** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2015 upon passage of the General Assembly
56 and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Jon Andreas
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To allow all persons to participate in recreational catch and release fishing activities without a fishing license.

Whereas, 744,000 state residents and nonresidents above age 16 fished in South Carolina in 2011; and,

Whereas, Anglers fished an average of 15 days throughout the year 2011; and,

Whereas, The total amount of expenditures involved in fishing-related activities in 2011 came to \$686 million.; and,

Whereas, The purchase of other items, such as magazines, membership dues, licenses, permits, stamps, and land leasing and ownership, amounted to \$7 million (1% of all fishing expenditures) in 2011; and,

Whereas, The average mortality rate for catch and release fishing is 0% to 17% and the average mortality rate for keeping fish is at 100%.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Edit Section 50-9-10 to read: It is unlawful to hunt, ~~fish, or~~ take fish, or take wildlife without obtaining a license and applicable permits, tags, or stamps which allow these activities. A person convicted of violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days.

Section II: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Ashley Bennett
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To allow faculty and professional staff at colleges, universities, technical colleges, and other post-secondary institutions to carry a concealed weapon on campus.

Whereas, 18 states allow the carry of a loaded weapons onto school grounds with few or minor conditions, with those states including: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah and Wyoming; and,

Whereas, 14 months after the school shooting in Newton, CT, there were at least 44 school shootings and 16 of those were at a college or university; and,

Whereas, There have been 40 active shootings at Colleges since January 2013; and,

Whereas, The average number of active shooter events in educational institutions raised from 5 in 2009, to 15 in 2013; and,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amends South Carolina Code of Law Section 16-23-420 to include,

D) This section does not apply to a guard, law enforcement officer, or member of the armed forces, or student of military science. A married student residing in an apartment provided by the private or public school whose presence with a weapon in or around a particular building is authorized by persons legally responsible for the security of the buildings is also exempted from the provisions of this section.

a. An individual licensed under this act to carry a concealed pistol may do so on the grounds of a college, university, technical college or other post-secondary institutions if they are employed as a faculty or professional staff member at the institution. The chief executive officer or school board shall not discharge, demote, suspend, threaten, harass, or in any other manner discriminate against a teacher, administrator, or other employee in the terms and conditions of employment because the employee carries a concealed pistol under this sub-paragraph.

Section II: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2015 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor

**An Amendment
Presented By Princeton Bradley
Coastal Carolina University**

Purpose: To reduce the number of unemployed college graduates.

Whereas, The South Carolina Higher Education Foundation reports South Carolina as having one of the lowest percentages of college graduates in the country at 24%; and,

Whereas, The unemployment rate for college graduates is currently 8.5% according to the economic policy institute; and,

Whereas, The average amount owed by graduates in student loans for the class of 2013 is over \$30,000, according to CNN.

Therefore, Be it resolved in the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Section I: Strike Section 59-111-50 in the South Carolina Code of Law:

~~“No person who has willfully defaulted on a National Direct Student Loan, a National Defense Student Loan, a Guaranteed Federally Insured Student Loan, a Nursing Student Loan, a Health Professions Student Loan or a Law Enforcement Educational Loan shall now or hereafter be employed by the State or any of its departments, agencies or subdivisions until all defaults are cured and loan payments made current; provided, however, that if such person and his lender voluntarily enter into an agreement after default under which terms the debt will be repaid and the lender confirms this agreement in writing with the state agency, department or subdivision, the loan shall not be considered in default and the default shall be considered as cured so long as the person complies with the terms of the agreement.”~~

Section II: Add Section 59-111-55 which will read as follows:

“College graduates who are residents of South Carolina, and are currently in default on their student loans, upon meeting the requisite criteria for the position to which they apply, shall be eligible for employment by the state. Persons employed by the state who are also currently in default on their student loan shall be subject to a garnishment of wages earned, which amount will be no less than 10% and no more than 15% of their monthly or weekly salary. The garnished wages shall be directly applied to the outstanding balance of the loan.”

Section III: This bill will go into effect upon the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Dekel Cohen
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To amend the South Carolina Code of Laws to prohibit the obstruction of license plates.

Whereas, People can use materials such as phantom glass to distort their license plates from traffic cameras and police officers; and,

Whereas, Phantom glass and other methods can obscure traffic cameras from taking a picture of a person’s license plate; darker, shaded glass can hinder police officers and citizens from being able to see the license plates clearly; and,

Whereas, Frames can hold glass that is not visible to the naked eye but can distort the letters when a picture is taken; and,

Whereas, Citizens may have difficulty clearly identifying license plates when needing to report crimes or they have witnessed crimes when frames or other covers are used.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend SECTION 56-3-1240 to read:
 License plates issued for motor vehicles must be attached to the outside rear of the vehicle, open to view. However, on truck tractors and road tractors the plates must be attached to the outside front of the vehicle provided that single unit commercial motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of twenty-six thousand pounds may have the license plate on either the outside front or rear of the vehicle. Every license plate, at all times, must be fastened securely in a horizontal and upright position to the vehicle for which it was issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging. However, if a motorcycle is equipped with vertically mounted license plate brackets, its license plate must be mounted vertically with its top fastened along the right vertical edge. The bottom of the plate must be at a height of not less than twelve inches from the ground in a place and position clearly visible as provided in Section 56-5-4530, and it must be maintained free from foreign materials and in a clearly legible condition. ~~No other license plate, lighting equipment, except as permitted in Section 56-5-4530, tag, sign, monogram, tinted cover, or inscription of metal or other material may be displayed above, or upon the plate other than that which is authorized and issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of validating the plate. It is not unlawful to place a decal or a frame on the license plate if it does not obscure any letters or numbers. No materials shall be placed on top or around the license plate including but not limited to: Phantom glass, tinted glass, any types of~~

46 *frames, stickers, tags, signs, decals, and monograms.* A motor vehicle owner may
47 attach a trailer hitch to a motor vehicle provided the hitch does not obscure more
48 than two inches of the license plate issued to the motor vehicle. It is unlawful to
49 operate or drive a motor vehicle with the license plate missing and a person who
50 is convicted for violating this section must be punished as provided by Section
51 56-3-2520.

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53 **Section II:** This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Ashley Dellamo
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To amend the South Carolina Code of Laws to increase the penalty for those who are convicted of domestic violence and/or facing a restraining order and to allow law enforcement officials to seize firearms at the time of arrest.

Whereas, Unlike South Carolina, more than two-thirds of all states bar those convicted of battery, and/or those facing restraining orders from having firearms; and,

Whereas, About half of those states require police to seize guns when they respond to domestic violence complaints before conviction; and,

Whereas, South Carolina is ranked second in the nation in the rate of women killed by men, nearly double the national average; and,

Whereas, Guns are the most common weapon used to kill women. A gun was used in about 51 percent of the 1,551 cases where they could confirm the weapon used; and,

Whereas, Other states are moving forward with reform measures, while South Carolina is failing to do anything to keep firearms out of the hands of violent men.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amend South Carolina Code of Law SECTION 16-25-20: to read as follows,

SECTION 16-25-20. A person who violates the terms and conditions of an order of protection issued in this State under Chapter 4, Title 20, the "Protection from Domestic Abuse Act", or a valid protection order related to domestic or family violence issued by a court of another state, tribe, or territory is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned ~~not more than thirty days and fined not more than five hundred dollars~~ *a minimum of ninety days and be restricted from the possession of a firearm at the time of the arrest and as a condition of bond.*

Section II: Add to South Carolina Code of Law SECTION 16-25-30

SECTION 16-25-30. Possession of a firearm by a person convicted of domestic violence, or domestic violence of high and aggravated nature; notice.

At the time a person is convicted of violating the provisions of Section 16-25-20 or 16-25-65, the court must deliver to the person a written form that

46 *conspicuously bears the following language: If at the time of the arrest a*
 47 *law enforcement official confiscated a firearm, the person convicted will*
 48 *be notified in written form that they are eligible to petition to the courts to*
 49 *obtain the confiscated firearm no sooner than 3 years after completion of*
 50 *their sentence.*

51
 52 **Section III:** Add to South Carolina Code of Laws SECTION 16-25-70
 53 SECTION 16-25-70. Warrantless arrest or search; admissibility of
 54 evidence.
 55 *(B) A law enforcement officer must arrest, with or without a warrant, a*
 56 *person at the person's place of residence or elsewhere if physical*
 57 *manifestations of injury to the alleged victim are present and the officer*
 58 *has probable cause to believe that the person is committing or has freshly*
 59 *committed a misdemeanor or felony under the provisions of Section 16-25-*
 60 *20(A) or (D), or 16-25-65 even if the act did not take place in the presence*
 61 *of the officer. In effecting a warrantless arrest under this section, a law*
 62 *enforcement officer may enter the residence of the person to be arrested in*
 63 *order to effect the arrest where the officer has probable cause to believe*
 64 *that the action is reasonably necessary to prevent physical harm or*
 65 *danger. A law enforcement officer may search the person's place of*
 66 *residence and confiscate any firearm found on the premise at the time of*
 67 *the arrest. Any firearm obtained at the time of arrest will be returned to*
 68 *persons immediately if found that Section 16-25-20(A) or (D), or 16-25-65*
 69 *were not violated.*

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 71
 72 **Section IV:** This bill shall go into effect on January 1, 2015 upon passage by the General
 73 Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Brian Edgerton
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To prohibit minors in the state of South Carolina from using commercial tanning equipment that emits ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Whereas, Many practices which can be potentially harmful to the body such as smoking, drinking, and tattooing, are limited to adults 18 or older in the state of South Carolina; and,

Whereas, Artificial UV light from tanning equipment has been shown to cause damage to skin cells; and,

Whereas, A clear link has been shown by doctors nationwide that use of tanning beds increases chances of skin cancer by 74%; and,

Whereas, Establishments that provide tanning beds are not required by state law at this time to provide accurate information regarding the short or long term health risks associated with using tanning equipment.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Edit Chapter 106 Section 3.7 of Title 61 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to read:

~~The registrant shall not allow minors to use tanning equipment unless the minor provides a consent form signed by the minors parent or legal guardian while witnessed by an operator or the owner of the tanning facility. The witness shall provide his/her name, signature, title and date on the consent form.~~

Facilities in the state of South Carolina that provide tanning equipment for general public use are required to obtain and verify picture identification of any persons using tanning equipment.

Establishments that are found in violation of this code will have their operating licenses removed for a period of no less than one year.

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:

45 A) 'Tanning Equipment' shall be defined as: any equipment that emits UV
46 radiation, or electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 200 and
47 400 nanometers.

48 B) 'Picture Identification' shall be defined as:

49 1) A South Carolina driver's license.

50 2) Other form of ID containing a photograph issued by the
51 Department of Motor Vehicles.

52 3) A passport.

53 4) A military ID containing a photograph issued by the federal
54 government.

55 5) A South Carolina voter registration card containing a
56 photograph of the voter.

57

58 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2015.

A Bill
Presented By Dylan Fender
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To centralize the way local police departments participate in The Department of Defense’s 1033 program by granting the authority to apply for surplus to the State Law Enforcement Division.

Whereas, Since its inception in 1990, the 1033 program has given over 4.3 billion dollars’ worth of military surplus to local law enforcement agencies across the United States; and,

Whereas, Local law enforcement officers, with the exception of special weapons and tactics teams (SWAT), are not always properly trained to use the equipment given to them, this includes, but is not limited to assault rifles, military helicopters, mine resistant vehicles, grenade launchers, and bayonets; and,

Whereas, The equipment that already exists in South Carolina includes more than 10 military helicopters, 4 armored vehicles, 2 mine resistant vehicles, more than 300 assault rifles, and a grenade launcher; and,

Whereas, While it is cheaper for local law enforcement to equip their officers with military surplus than with proper police equipment, the officers are not properly trained to use some of the military equipment, senselessly endangering those they are sworn to protect and serve; and,

Whereas, In the state of South Carolina, much of the participation in the program occurs in rural counties who suffer little threat of militarized violence, and have low risks of rioting, thereby not necessitating the utilization of military equipment.

Therefore, Be it resolved in the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Section I: Add to SECTION 23-3-15:
 (D) The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) is responsible for the acquisition, monitoring, and distribution of military surplus from the United States Government via the 1033 program:
 (1) Monitoring of the military surplus includes: (a) creating a database of all existing, and future, surplus possessed by law enforcement agencies within South Carolina; (b) inspecting, repairing, and destroying, when necessary, the military surplus possessed by law enforcement agencies within South Carolina.
 (2) SLED is responsible for determining local law enforcements need of military surplus. This includes: (a) accepting request forms from local agencies seeking military surplus; (b) need for military equipment shall be

45 determined by crime rate, population density, existing surplus within the agency,
46 and instances of police brutality.

47
48 **Section II:** Amend SECTION 23-3-150. ~~Grants and appropriations; contracts with public~~
49 ~~agencies.~~ Grants, appropriations, *and acquisitions*; contracts with public agencies.

50
51 The State Law-Enforcement Division is authorized to accept, on behalf of the
52 State, and use in the establishment, expansion and improvement of the system,
53 funds in the nature of grants or appropriations, from the State, the United States,
54 or any agency thereof, and may contract with any public agency for use of the
55 system in the furtherance of effective law enforcement. *Additionally, the State*
56 *Law-Enforcement Division is authorized to acquire, on behalf of the State,*
57 *military surplus from The Department of Defense, or any agency thereof, and*
58 *shall contract with local agencies for use of the surplus in the furtherance of*
59 *effective law enforcement.*

60
61 **Section III:** For the purpose of this bill the following shall be defined:
62 A) 1033 materials: goods and materials that are sold or distributed by The
63 Department of Defense when deemed no longer necessary. Including,
64 but not limited to weapons, vehicles, protective equipment, and tear
65 gas.

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67 **Section IV:** This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Samuel Gordon
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To further enhance tourism in South Carolina by promoting “Family Week”

Whereas, The state declares the last week in August” Family Week” in which the Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism is obligated to promote celebrations that appeal to families as a unit; and,

Whereas, Other than agriculture and military bases, tourism, especially around coastal communities, is an essential part of the economy which generated \$17.6 billion in 2012 and,

Whereas, Tourism accounted for one in ten South Carolina jobs and,

Whereas, Promoting “Family Week” will not only strengthen our reputation as a family friendly location to tourists, but also express the value of family statewide while generating more revenue for the state

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Add **Section 53-3-91** of South Carolina Code of Laws to read:

Section I: A. The Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism in South Carolina will be required to create a committee of appointed members to generate new advertisement techniques to further promote family week in the state of South Carolina

Section II: B. The committee will consist of 10 members already employed by the Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism. Committee members will be appointed by the Directors Commission and will hold a two year term. Once the term has ended they are subject to reappointment.

Section III: C. The committee will also receive 2% of the accommodations tax revenue that the Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism is funded. This money is to be used to fund advertisements and statewide activities that will take place during Family Week

Section V: This bill will go into effect upon the passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Kaitlyn Hanzl
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To regulate the treatment of, and prevent the cruelty to, circus animals.

Whereas, 12 other states, including Montana and Pennsylvania, have laws to better protect circus animals; and,

Whereas, The exotic animals found in circuses are often victims of unnecessary pain and suffering due to the conditions they are subject to; and,

Whereas, The work in which such animals are forced to perform, and the use of devices for reinforcement of acts, physically and mentally harms the animals.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Add Section 47-1- 45, to read:

A.) Whoever knowingly or intentionally overworks, ill-treats, deprives the necessary sustenance and shelter, inflicts unnecessary pain or suffering upon any circus animal, or by the prohibiting or ordering that knowingly or intentionally causes these things to be done, for every offense is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be punished by imprisonment not exceeding ninety days or by a fine of no more than five thousand dollars, or both, for a first offense; by imprisonment not exceeding one hundred and eighty days or by a fine not exceeding nine thousand dollars, or both, for a second offense; or by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, or both, for a third or subsequent offense.

B.) Whoever tortures, torments, cruelly kills, or inflicts excessive or repeated unnecessary pain and suffering upon any circus animal or by the prohibiting or ordering of abuse that is found to cause the acts to be done for any of the above offenses is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be punished by imprisonment of not less than three hundred and sixty-six days and not to exceed ten years and by a fine of twenty thousand dollars.

C.) No company, owner, or possessor of circus animals involved with the transportation of circus animals shall permit the animals to be confined in railroad cars or any type of transporting cage for a period of time exceeding twenty-one hours without unloading for rest, water and feeding for a period of at least five consecutive hours. Unless prevented from doing so due to a storm or other type of accidental cause beyond the control of such company that would make unloading unsafe for the animals. The prohibiting or ordering that knowingly or intentionally causes these things to be done, for every offense is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be punished by

46 imprisonment not to exceed sixty days or by a fine of no more than seven
47 thousand dollars. This would be administered to all companies involved with
48 the transportation of the circus animals.
49

50 **Section II:** Definitions:

- 51 1.) "Animal" to mean any living vertebrate, sentient being; except *homo sapiens*.
52 2.) "Sustenance" to mean the adequate quantities and suitable intervals of food
53 provided during the course of the day, sufficient to maintain a reasonable level
54 of nutrition that will allow for the proper growth and weight, and adequate
55 water provided with a constant access to fresh and clean water that would
56 provide better health and nutrition.
57 3.) "Shelter" to mean a living quarters that would be reasonable to expect an
58 animal the protection from physical suffering and impairment of their health
59 due to exposure to the elements and adverse weather.
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61 **Section IV:** This bill shall go into effect on January 1, 2015 upon the passage by the General
62 Assembly and signature of the Governor.

**An Amendment
Presented by Bryant Lewis
Coastal Carolina University**

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Purpose: To amend the South Carolina State Constitution so that any elected state official, including members of the State Legislature, once impeached and convicted, shall be prohibited indefinitely from holding any other state elected position.

Whereas, In Article I Section 3 of the United States Constitution this idea is illustrated as such “Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor”; and,

Whereas, The costs for impeachment investigations and proceedings, across the state and federal level, has ranged from two-hundred thousand dollars to over forty million dollars; and,

Whereas, Reasons for impeachment are but are not limited to bribery, misuse of government funds, perjury, misuse of positional power, treason and other high crimes and misdemeanors; and,

Whereas, 36 States already have this incorporated into their original constitution

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Amends South Carolina State Constitution Article XV- Impeachment (Section 2): to read as follows,

Article XV Impeachment

A. **Section 2** Trial of impeachments; judgment; proceedings no bar to criminal prosecution; impeachment of Governor

a. The Senate shall try all impeachments, and when sitting for that purpose Senators shall be under oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted except by a vote of two-thirds of all members elected. Judgment in such case shall be limited to removal of office and disqualification from holding any other elected state office. Impeachment proceedings, whether or not resulting in conviction, shall not be a bar to criminal prosecution and punishment according to law.

Section II: Amends South Carolina Constitution Article III- Legislative Department (Section 12): to be read as

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Article III Legislative Department

A. **Section 12** Officers; rules; punishment and expulsion of members

- a. Each house shall choose its own officers, determine its rules of procedure, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, ~~but not a second time for the same cause.~~ After an expulsion from either house, that member is prohibited from holding any elected office in the state from hence forward.

Section III: This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2015, upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Julietta Marks
Coastal Carolina University

Purpose: Add Section 24-13-240 to the South Carolina Code of Law to allow the South Carolina Department of Corrections to create a program for the creation and marketing of textiles and toys to the public, for the monetary benefit of the inmates, their families, and the Department of Corrections.

Whereas, Work, training-related or otherwise, allows for inmates to be reintegrated into society more easily upon the completion of their sentence; and,

Whereas, The SC Department of Corrections’ Division of Programs and Services currently allows the inmates to participate in manufacturing and training programs, including the manufacturing of tools, installation of hardwood flooring, and the refurbishing of furniture; and,

Whereas, The SC Department of Corrections’ Service program allows the inmates to be paid for goods and services done for the private and public sector; and,

Whereas, Activities in prisons decrease levels of stress and violence, resulting in a better environment for rehabilitation; and,

Whereas, As of 2008, 69.8% of inmates were heads of households with families to support.

Therefore, Be it resolved in the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina

Section I: Add Section 24-13-240 to read:

- 1) *Incarcerated individuals who participate in the Division of Programs and Services located in the South Carolina Department of Corrections Division of Industries, for the creation of toys and textiles, will be allowed 35% of profits based upon the selling value of the items. 25% of profits will go to funding the program and 40% will be returned to the South Carolina Department of Corrections*
- 2) *The items may be sold on the South Carolina Department of Corrections official website.*
- 3) *The items will be subject to the inspection of Department of Corrections volunteers before being sold on the Department of Corrections website.*
- 4) *Participation in the program will be based upon stipulations provided by the Department of Corrections. Inmates may be denied participation in the program if they have been convicted of a violent crime, including, but not limited to, arson, homicide, and sexual and/or physical assault.*
- 5) *An Inmate may also be denied participation if they;*

- 45 a. *Have been expelled from the program due to behavioral issues*
- 46 *more than twice.*
- 47 b. *Have threatened the life or well-being of another prisoner while*
- 48 *participating in the program.*
- 49

50 **Section II: Inspection of the Items**

- 51 A. Inspection of the items to be sold through the Department of Corrections Division of
- 52 Programs and Services are to be conducted by volunteers within the Department of
- 53 Corrections. The volunteer inspecting the item may not be a relative of the inmate
- 54 who created the item, nor can they be of close personal acquaintance to the inmate.
- 55 i. “Toys” and “Textiles” as produced by the inmates within the program will be
- 56 defined by the Department of Corrections volunteers.

57 **Section III: Source of materials for participation in the program**

- 58
- 59 A. Materials such as yarn, fabric, wood, and carpentry tools will be provided by the South
- 60 Carolina Department of Corrections. However, materials will be dispersed based upon
- 61 the activity and excess will be collected by the Divisions of Industries.
- 62 B. Inmates seeking to participate in a project deemed too lengthy or expensive by the SCDC
- 63 will need to participate in the Inmate Packaging Program, wherein the inmate’s family
- 64 will be asked to supply any excess materials. The packages will be subject to the rules
- 65 outlined in the Inmate Packaging Program’s policies. Inmates may not request;
- 66 a. A concealable weapon such as carpentry knives
- 67 b. Chemical items such as glue or solvent
- 68

69 **Section IV:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2015, upon passage by the General
70 Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Trenton McGuirt
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To require entities that provide food bank and food pantry services to increase the value of nutrition found in the food which they provide.

Whereas, Statistics show that in South Carolina, more than a quarter of children suffer from food insecurity, and lack proper nutrition; and,

Whereas, A poor diet, especially among children, increases the chances of poor health throughout one’s life, increasing rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke; and,

Whereas, Many of those who receive food from their local food banks also rely on government assistance for healthcare; and,

Whereas, Holding food banks in South Carolina to a better standard of nutrition is a preventive action that will save lives, as well as state dollars.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To amend section 12-36-2120(10) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

(10)(a) *nutritious* meals or foodstuffs used in furnishing meals to school children, if the sales or use are within school buildings and are not for profit;

(b) *nutritious* meals or foodstuffs provided to elderly or disabled persons at home by nonprofit organizations that receive only charitable contributions in addition to sale proceeds from the meals;

(c) *nutritious* foodstuffs, either prepared or packaged for the homeless or needy that are sold to nonprofit organizations, or *nutritious* foodstuffs that are subsequently sold or donated by a nonprofit organization to another nonprofit organization. This subitem is only applicable to foodstuffs which are eligible for purchase under the USDA food stamp program;

(d) *nutritious* meals or foodstuffs prepared or packaged that are sold to public or nonprofit organizations for congregate or in-home service to the homeless or needy or disabled adults over eighteen years of age or individuals over sixty years of age. This subitem only applies to meals and foodstuffs eligible for purchase under the USDA food stamp program;

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:

- 46 A) 'Nutritious' shall be defined as: Describing meals that accomplish the
- 47 following:
- 48 I. Offer fruits and vegetables as two
- 49 separate meal components;
- 50 II. Offer vegetables daily,
- 51 including specific vegetable subgroups
- 52 (dark green and orange vegetables, legumes) and a limited quantity
- 53 of starchy vegetables;
- 54 III. Offer whole grains
- 55 IV. Offer a daily protein
- 56 V. Offer fluid milk that is fat-free
- 57 (unflavored and flavored) and low-fat
- 58 (unflavored only);
- 59 VI. Limit sodium of each meal served to 900mg of sodium or
- 60 about 37.5 Percent Daily Value.
- 61 VII. Offer alternatives to accommodate common food allergies,
- 62 such as lactose intolerance .

63 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Brooke Morris
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To require any person over 15 years old who desires to operate a vessel or a personal watercraft in public waterways to take a boaters’ education course.

Whereas, Currently, the only people required to take a boaters’ education course are those under the age of sixteen; and,

Whereas, From 2001 to 2011 there have been 1,330 recreational boating accidents in South Carolina, and 206 recreational boating fatalities in South Carolina; and,

Whereas, The neighboring states of North Carolina and Georgia both mandate boaters’ education courses for all people who desire to operate a vessel or personal watercraft.

Whereas, A boaters’ education course lowers the cost of insurance on vessels and personal watercrafts, and gives boaters a better understanding of how to operate them safely in public waterways.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To be inserted in Section 50-21-90 of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

1. *Everyone who operates a vessel or personal watercraft in public waterways must have passed a United States Coast Guard approved boaters’ education course.*
2. *No one under the age of fifteen is eligible to take a boaters’ education course; therefore, they can only operate a vessel or personal watercraft with competent adult aboard.*
3. *The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources may use the existing options of completing a boaters’ education course, and they will stay the same. The boater’s education course may be a self-study course with a test completed online at a cost of \$29.95, or a free one day six hour class conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary with a test at the end. A person who has completed the test with a 75% or higher will be rewarded their boater’s education certificate.*
4. *The boaters’ education certificate must be with the operator of the vessel or personal watercraft at the time of operation, and presented upon request of a law enforcement officer.*
5. *The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will enforce this law and penalize for violations. A fine of \$50 will be given to a person who is not able to present their boaters’ education certificate upon request, and a fine of*

46 *\$300 will be given to a person who is operating a boat without completing a*
47 *boaters' education course.*

48 **Section II:** For the purposes of this bill:

49 A) 'Competent adult' shall be defined as: someone who is at least twenty-one
50 years of age, has passed a boater's education course, and is not under the
51 influence of drugs or alcohol.

52 B) 'Vessel' shall be defined as: a boat with a motor of at least 15 horsepower.

53 C) 'Personal watercraft' shall be defined as: a jet-powered watercraft ridden
54 astraddle, and meant for individual use.

55
56 **Section III:** This bill will go into effect July 1, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by James Olivencia
Coastal Carolina University

Purpose: To allow municipalities to create and implement publicly owned internet and broadband networks, enabling them to auction off to larger providers or create stable, competitive markets at a lower price.

Whereas, Many privately-owned internet and broadband providers have fees too high for customers to afford and this, coupled with the taxes they are charged for using such providers, is strenuous; and,

Whereas, Said providers have successfully lobbied the South Carolina State Legislature to enact laws that make it easier for larger internet and broadband corporations to dominate the market; and,

Whereas, Such laws have prevented municipalities from creating and implementing their own publicly owned internet and broadband providers; and,

Whereas, An example is the city of Provo, Utah who sold its own fiber optic networks to Google, the company paid \$1 for the networks, and agreed to take the debt that the city of Provo had accrued during the network construction, a massive \$39 million dollars.

Whereas, A deal with a such as this would allow for the state of South Carolina to free up some of the taxes it collects from citizens to help pay for existing expensive providers and implement them somewhere else. Conversely, there could be a decrease in taxes for citizens if the state were allowed to strike a deal such as this.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Strike Section 58-9-2660 from the South Carolina Code of Laws

~~SECTION 58-9-2660. *Petitions to designate unserved areas; notice; objections.*~~

~~(A) *A government-owned communications service provider may petition the commission to designate one or more areas as an unserved area. The petition must identify with specificity each 2010 Census tract within a persistent poverty county described in Section 58-9-2610(G) and each 2010 Census block in any other county for which this designation is sought. The petition also must identify each county that contains any Census tract or block identified in the*~~

46 *petition. If an objection is not filed pursuant to subsection (C), the commission*
47 *must grant the petition and designate each 2010 Census tract or block*
48 *identified in the petition as an unserved area.*

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50 **Section II:** This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2015

A Bill
Presented by Taylor Repp
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To mandate all school buses purchased and owned by the state of South Carolina to be equipped with seatbelts.

Whereas, Florida, Texas, New York, New Jersey, and California already require school buses be equipped with seatbelts; and,

Whereas, The National Highway Traffic Safety Transportation Association found there were 89 crashes between 2003 and 2012 in which at least one occupant of a school transportation vehicle died; and,

Whereas, Wearing seatbelts on school buses better protects children during side impact collisions and will prevent ejection in the case of a rollover.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Add **Section 59-67-101** to the Code of Laws:
 1.) All school buses purchased either in state or out of state before and after 2014, and are owned by the state of South Carolina, must be equipped with seatbelts.
 2.) Any student who fails to wear a seatbelt could be subject to a \$25 fine for a first offense. Additional punishments for the student will be deferred to the school district.
 3.) The school district and other public entities will not be held liable in a civil action should an accident occur if the student did not wear their seatbelt.

Section II: For the purposes of this bill:
 A) ‘Seatbelt’ shall be defined as: A restraint approved by the South Carolina DMV or the United States Department of Transportation, which either uses a lap belt or three-point belt.

Section III: This bill will go into effect July 1st 2015 upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Tyler Wyeth
Coastal Carolina University

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Purpose: To increase the distance that a structure for human habitation may be built in proximity to a dune crest along the South Carolina coast.

Whereas, Erosion is a serious problem in South Carolina, recognized by the federal government by allocating funds to the state to fight erosion; and,

Whereas, Vegetation, which is often destroyed by coastal construction, helps to hold both sand and sand dunes in place, as a natural defense against erosion; and,

Whereas, By the year 2050, the national sea level is expected to rise 6-16 inches, and between 1963 and 2012, Charleston’s sea level has already risen 6 inches; and,

Whereas, Folly Beach near Charleston loses an average of 7 feet of shoreline a year while Hunting Island near Beaufort loses an average of 15 feet of shoreline a year; and,

Whereas, North Carolina has a larger setback line distance than South Carolina while Florida and Maryland’s beaches all have setback lines of at least double the distance established by South Carolina law.

Therefore, Be it amended by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: To amend Section 48-39-280B of the South Carolina Code of Laws, to read:
 (B) To implement the retreat policy provided for in subsection (A), a setback line must be established landward of the baseline a distance which is ~~forty~~ *sixty* times the average annual erosion rate or not less than ~~twenty~~ *ninety* feet from the baseline for each erosion zone based upon the best historical and scientific data adopted by the department as a part of the State Comprehensive Beach Management Plan.

Section II: To amend Section 48-39-280B of the South Carolina Code of Laws, to read:
 (C) The department, before ~~July 3, 1991~~ *July 3, 2015*, must establish a final baseline and setback line for each erosion zone based on the best available scientific and historical data as provided in subsection (B) and with consideration of public input. The baseline and setback line must not be revised before July 1, ~~1998~~ *2024*, nor later than July 1, ~~2000~~ *2026*. After that revision, the baseline and setback line must be revised not less than every eight years but not more than every ten years after each preceding revision. In the establishment and revision of the baseline and setback line, the department must transmit and otherwise make

46 readily available to the public all information upon which its decisions are based
47 for the establishment of the final baseline and setback line. The department must
48 hold one public hearing before establishing the final baseline and setback lines.
49 Until the department establishes new baselines and setback lines, the existing
50 baselines and setback lines must be used. The department may stagger the
51 revision of the baselines and setback lines of the erosion zones so long as every
52 zone is revised in accordance with the time guidelines established in this section.
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56 **Section III:** Add Section 48-39-280 subsection (C)

57 (1) Any structure previously standing before the movement of the baseline, is
58 restricted from rebuilding or renovating the structure greater thirty five percent of
59 the total whole of the building.

- 60 (i) The percentage of rebuilding or renovation being done shall
61 be surveyed by a qualified state employee.
- 62 (ii) These structures are only allowed a single renovation under
63 the maximum renovation percentage listed in subsection
64 (1).

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66 **Section IV:** This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2015.

A Bill
Presented by Kaylee A. Yates
Coastal Carolina University

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6 **Purpose:** To further regulate homeschools and homeschool associations to ensure that
7 students receive a structured and adequate education by requiring annual
8 standardized testing for all homeschool students.
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- 10 **Whereas,** There are approximately 22,134 homeschoolers aged 5-17 in South Carolina; and
11 **Whereas,** These students have the potential to receive an inconsistent education that could
12 be based on personal interests or the motivation of the student or teacher-parents
13 interest; and
14 **Whereas,** South Carolina does not currently require that all homeschoolers take a
15 standardized test or submit the student's coursework to their homeschool
16 association; and
17 **Whereas,** Homeschooling should be better regulated to ensure that homeschool students are
18 at their standardized grade level or age level or higher, and to verify that students
19 are completing their coursework and attending homeschool at least 180 days a
20 year.
21
- 22 **Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session
23 assembled the following:
24
- 25 **Section I:** Revise **Section 59-65-47-d** in The South Carolina Code of Law to read:
26
27 (d) educational records shall be maintained by the parent-teacher *and submitted to*
28 *the affiliated homeschool association* include:
29
30 (1) a plan book, diary, or other record indicating subjects taught and activities in
31 which the student and parent-teacher engage; and
32
33 (2) a portfolio of samples of the student's academic work; and
34
35 (3) a semiannual progress report including attendance records and individualized
36 documentation of the student's academic progress in each of the basic
37 instructional areas specified in item (c) above.
38
- 39 **Section III:** Add Requirement (e) in **Section 59-65-47** to read
40 (e) *Homeschool Associations will be required to provide a Commission of Higher*
41 *Education approved nationally standardized achievement test that all member-*
42 *homeschoolers ages seven through seventeen will be required to take annually.*
43
- 44 **Section IV:** This bill will go into effect July 1st, 2015.

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A Bill
Presented by Anne Lafond and Carolyn McCalley
College of Charleston

Purpose: To prohibit the act of smoking tobacco on public college campuses.

Whereas, Smoking causes disease such as cancer, heart disease, COPD, and Emphysema,

Whereas, Second hand smoke is a health concern to non-smokers,

Whereas, Smoking causes more deaths than HIV, illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, and firearm related incidents combined;

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Require public colleges to enact smoking bans throughout their campuses

Section II: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Elle Danahey and Stevie Galicia
College of Charleston

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- Purpose:** To include a self-defense unit in all physical education courses in all of South Carolina’s public high schools.
- Whereas,** South Carolina has one of the highest domestic crime rates in the country,
- Whereas,** One in four women on college campuses have been a victim of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault,
- Whereas,** Of the women who have reported rape, over 75% of them were younger than 25 years old at the time of their attack,
- Whereas,** Every year in the United States of America, over 1 million women experience rape,
- Whereas,** 1 in every 10 rape victims is male,
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:
- Section I:** South Carolina’s public high schools will add a self-defense unit to every physical education course.
- Section II:** The unit will be no shorter than 3 weeks, but no longer than 5 weeks.
- Section III:** How the unit is taught, i.e. by the existing physical education teacher or hiring a specialist is left up to the discretion of the school.
- Section IV:** This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Grier Jones
College of Charleston

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Purpose: To lower college graduate student loan debts by offering programs for graduates skilled in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM).

Whereas, STEAM education provides an opportunity for students to experience science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics as they would in a career setting,

Whereas, There are STEAM labor shortage in the state of South Carolina,

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

- Section I:** South Carolina will require the interested universities and corporations:
- 1. To make sure the students have the required skills and knowledge in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics to be successful in the internship
 - 1. To abide by the slight increased taxation of the company in order to pay for the students loans
 - 2. To promote this as a more responsible way to pay back their student loans, build their resume, and gain knowledge of the current jobs that use science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics.

Section III: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Hope Brannon
College of Charleston

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Purpose: To require the state of South Carolina to have seven (7) gun buyback programs per year.

Whereas, South Carolina has the sixth highest rate of gun violence in the country, and

Whereas, South Carolina has no regulation on missing firearms, regulation on locking devices, regulation on private sales, regulation on gun shows, regulation on long guns or rifles, and no regulation on hand guns, and

Whereas, As of 2010, somebody is killed with a gun every 14 hours in the state, and an aggravated assault with a firearm occurs every hour and a half, and

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: South Carolina will be required to have seven gun buyback programs per year.

Section II: Funding for these programs will come from the state vis-à-vis city police departments. However:

1. Funding for the safe handling and disposal of the guns will come from the city and state government
2. Incentives and rewards must be a part of designated funds for the buyback programs
3. Private companies may fund the incentives and rewards of the program at their own costs

Section III: There will be a “no questions asked” policy in place.

1. All guns received will be taken without penalty to the one donating
2. No further action will be taken by the State to prosecute or attempt to prosecute persons by using the weapons as evidence
3. The State will not use serial numbers or other measures to convict or penalize persons for crimes related to those weapons

Section IV: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor

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A Bill
Presented by Caroline Clark and Patrick Guthrie
College of Charleston

Purpose: To require public universities in the state of South Carolina to include a nutrition unit as part of the first year program for freshmen.

Whereas, Students entering their first year of college tend to develop changes in their eating and exercising habits, according to a 2006 study published in the Journal of American College Health,

Whereas, This study found that first year students gain an average of six pounds within the first year of college and an average body fat increase of 3.8%,

Whereas, Teaching freshman the importance of proper nutrition within the first year would lead to healthier eating and exercise habits throughout the rest of student's college career and improve the overall health of the university.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: South Carolina will require public universities to require first year students enrolled to have a nutrition unit within the already required course.

Section II: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Derrick Brown and Kurt Widenhouse
Erskine College

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Purpose: To abolish South Carolina Income and Estate Taxes and compensate for the loss in state revenue with an increase in the General Sales Tax.

Whereas, South Carolina already has a tax-friendly environment and the elimination of individual income tax will encourage further investment in the state; and,

Whereas, Eliminating income tax will lessen financial burdens on individuals and families, while the corresponding rise in the general sales tax will encourage thrift and capital investment; and,

Whereas, Financial largess will be taxed evenly but low income families will still derive financial protection from categorical and item-specific sales-tax exemptions.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature convened in regular session here the following:

Section I: South Carolina Code of Laws Title 12 Chapters 6, 8, 11, 13, 16, and 62 shall be repealed.

Section II: South Carolina Code of Laws Title 12 Chapter 36 Section 910 shall be amended to read: “~~Five~~ Twelve percent tax on tangible personal property; laundry services, electricity, communication services, and manufacturer-consumed goods.”

Section III: At the end of each fiscal year, the Treasurer’s office will submit a report on the revenues from the general sales tax and the use of that revenue. Excess revenues will be paid towards the public debts of the State of South Carolina.

Section IV: This bill shall take effect at the beginning of the second calendar year after passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Derrick Brown and Kurt Widenhouse
Erskine College

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Section IV: This bill shall take effect at the beginning of the second calendar year after passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented By Carrie Hill and Melanie Locke
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** Requiring all education students to take a special education law course.
- Whereas,** Nationally more than 6.8 million children with disabilities attend public schools every year; and,
- Whereas,** Approximately 100,000 children in SC are being served in special education; and,
- Whereas,** There are both state and federal laws and regulations governing the administration of education programs for student disabilities; and,
- Whereas,** Teachers must be able to protect the rights of special education students and insure that they do not intentionally or unknowingly violate any state and federal laws and regulations, and to protect the teachers and schools from lawsuits.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session here assembled the following:
- Section I:** The following shall be inserted into South Carolina Code of Laws Title 59, Chapter 26, Section 20: (f) departments and colleges of education shall require all education students to successfully complete a course in special education law.
- Section II:** This bill shall go into effect on the three calendar years after passage by the General Assembly and the signature of the Governor.

A Resolution
Jeron Crawford and Emily Woods
Erskine College

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- Purpose:** To provide South Carolina students of a left handed nature the necessary learning equipment.
- Whereas,** Ten percent of the United States population is naturally left handed; and,
- Whereas,** Schools continue to provide seating which effectively handicaps thirteen percent of their students; and,
- Whereas,** Left handed students have been shown to score lower on timed test due to slower handwriting because of the physical disadvantage brought on by a right-biased seating in the classroom; and,
- Whereas,** Research has shown that student will perform better with the proper equipment.
- Therefore,** Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session the following:
- Section I:** Each institution of learning in the State of South Carolina will provide an adequate ratio of one left handed desk for every ten right handed desks in the classroom to support the needs of the left handed students.
- Section II:** This bill will take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and upon signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Cadet John Putnam
The Citadel

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Purpose: To require any person of the age of 75 to retake the DMV driving test and every two years after they reach the age of 80, as to make sure they are capable drivers.

Whereas, Other than teens people over the age of 75 are the most likely to get in accidents; and,

Whereas, Senior citizens are the most likely driver to be killed in accidents; and,

Whereas, Elderly citizens are more likely to neglect or forget laws put in place more recently; and,

Whereas, Senior citizens can still get behind the wheel even with the onset of dementia and other health factors that can seriously inhibit driving ability.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: All South Carolina drivers age 75 and every two years after starting at age 80 will be required to retake DMV driving test to make sure they are proficient drivers.

Section II: This act shall take effect upon passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Cody Ford
The Citadel

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Purpose: Lowering the Concealed Carry Age from 21 to 18 for members of the United States Armed Forces (Active Duty/National Guard/ Reserves)

Whereas, Members of the military undergo firearms training while in basic training;

Whereas, This year a member of the United States Military saved the lives of 3 after he defended himself with the use of a concealed carry permit;

Whereas, Nine states have adopted this measure including neighboring Georgia Alabama, Florida, and North Carolina;

Whereas, Crime rates are lower where more concealed carry permits are prevalent.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Members of the United States Armed Forces (Active Duty/ Guard/ Reserves) between the ages of 18-20 be permitted to carry a concealed firearm; those applying for a concealed carry permit under this bill will also be required to take 4 hours of classroom instruction over proper procedure and firearm laws as well 4 hours of range training to insure proper carry of a firearm. Additionally those applying would be afforded the right to open carry in locations legal to possess a firearm.

Section II: A bill amends Law Abiding Citizens Self-Defense Act of 1996, No. 464, Section 1.

Section III: With the exception of age, the same guidelines found in the Law Abiding Citizen's Self-Defense Act shall apply under this new change to the law.

Section IV: This act shall go into effect on January 1, 2015, after passage by the General Assembly and signature of the Governor.

A Bill
Presented by Andrew Harding; Adam Desch
The Citadel

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Purpose: To decrease the incarceration time for minor punishments to save tax money and decrease overcrowding prison, but increase fine punishment.

Whereas, The South Carolina prison system spends approximately \$19, 137 per criminal per year, and it has been continually increasing at about a rate of approximately \$1000 dollars per year;

Whereas, There are currently 24,255 incarcerated people in South Carolina;

Whereas, We are spending \$464,167,935 per year on our prison system; \$1600 per month per person.

Whereas, Petty crimes that involve jail time: Possession, Intent to Sell or Traffic Laws, and Vandalism laws. These crimes should have a lower jail time, yet a higher fine attached to them, cutting the State’s expenditures.

Therefore, Be it enacted by the South Carolina Student Legislature in regular session assembled the following:

Section I: Chapter 53 is repealed from title 44:
 A) ~~Section 44-53-110~~
 Chapter 11 is repealed from title 16:
 B) ~~SECTION 16-11-770~~

Section II: Chapter 53 is to be rewritten as: Chapter 11 is repealed from title 16:
 Possession
Misdemeanor: 1st offence of possession of less than one oz.: 15 days and/ or \$400.
Misdemeanor: 2nd offence of possession of less than one oz.: 40 days and/ or \$600.
Misdemeanor: subsequent offences of possession of less than one oz.: 6 months and/ or \$2000. Misdemeanor: 1st offence of possession of over then one oz.: 30 days and/ or \$600. Misdemeanor: 2nd offence of possession of over then one oz.: 60 days and/ or \$1000. Misdemeanor: subsequent offences of possession of more than one oz.: 8 months and/ or \$3000.

Sale
Felony: 1st offence of intent to sale or traffic less than 10 lbs: 3 years and/or \$7,000.
Felony: 1st offence of intent to sale or traffic 10 lbs- 100lbs: 1- 5 years and/or \$20,000.
Felony: 2nd offence of intent to sale or traffic 10 lbs-100 lbs: 5- 10 years and/or \$30,000.
Felony: 3rd offence of intent to sale or traffic 10 lbs-100 lbs: 10- 20 years and/or \$50,000.
Felony: 1st offence of intent to sale or traffic 100 lbs-2000 lbs: 20 years and/or \$60,000.
Felony: 1st offence of intent to sale or traffic 2000 lbs-10, 000 lbs: 30 years and/or \$100,000. Felony: sale to a minor, within ½ mile of a school, playground, or park: 5 years and/or \$20,000.

50 Chapter 11 is to be rewritten as:

51 Vandalism

52 Misdemeanor: 1st offence \$1,500 and/or 15 days to 30 days. Misdemeanor: 2nd offence
53 within 10 years: \$3,500 and/or 60 days to 90 days. Misdemeanor: 3rd offence within 10
54 years: \$5,000 and/or 1 year.

55 In addition to these penalties, the court may order the offender to repair or cleanup of the
56 vandalism.

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59 **Section III:** Definitions:

60 "Marijuana" means:

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62 (1) all species or variety of the marijuana plant and all parts thereof whether growing or
63 not;

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65 (2) the seeds of the marijuana plant;

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67 (3) the resin extracted from any part of the marijuana plant;

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69 (4) every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the
70 marijuana plant, marijuana seeds, or marijuana resin.

71

72 **Section IV:** This act shall go into effect on January 1, 2015, after passage by the General Assembly
73 and signature of the Governor.

South Carolina Student Legislature Rules of the House of Representatives

- 1.1 The speaker of the house shall have the chair on every legislative day precisely at the hour to which the house adjourned at the last sitting, immediately call the members to order, cause prayer to be said and if quorum be present proceed to other business.
- 1.2 The Speaker may designate any member of the House of Representative to preside, in his Absence for a period of no longer than one (1) legislative day.
- 1.3 The speaker shall be addressed as Madam Speaker or Mr. Speaker depending on his gender. While presiding the Speaker Pro Tempore shall be addressed in like manner unless the Speaker shall be present in which the Speaker Pro Tempore shall be addressed as “Mr. Speaker Pro Tem”.
- 1.4 The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum, and, in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries, or in the lobby, may cause the same to be cleared. Any person guilty of contempt of the House may be ordered into custody by the House and dealt with, as it deems proper.
- 1.5 All committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise provided for by the Constitution. The Speaker shall name the members constituting each committee, and the chairmen shall be elected by the several committees. The committees may at their discretion elect a Vice-Chairman and such other officers as they may choose. The Speaker shall be an ex officio voting member of all standing and special committees.
- 1.6 The speaker shall clarify the passage of all bills and resolutions. Such certifications shall be mad while the house is in season and shall be made a matter of record in the House Journal.
- 1.7 The speaker she be vested with discretionary power to send communications to the Senate on all subjects where the Speaker may.
- 1.8 The speaker shall have and be allowed to assign the reason for one vote. If a tie should occur and the Speaker has already voted he may not vote again.
- 1.9 The Speaker shall decide all points of order subject to an appeal by any member. He may not require the member raising a point of order to cite the rule or other attorney in support of the question.

- 1.10 In the absence of the Speaker and provided that there is no other designee, the Speaker Pro Tempore, as presiding officer shall take the chair.
- 1.11 When not presiding the Speaker Pro tempore shall participate in like manner to any other member and shall count as one of delegation's house debates. The Speaker may yield the chair to the Speaker Pro Tempore in order to debate a bill or resolution; though neither may debate on and preside over the same motion
- 1.12 While presiding, the Speaker Pro Tempore shall perform all duties of the Speaker, save the duty of appointment of the House officers and shall serve as an ex officio voting member of all standing and special committees.
- 1.13 The presiding officer shall establish the presence of a quorum of the majority of the members of the House to conduct binding legislative matters. Debate and procedural motions may be conducted otherwise for a period of no longer than one (1) legislative day.
- 1.14 Recesses in the absence of a quorum may be called at any time by the presiding officer, and such a declaration shall not require a motion from the floor, nor shall such a motion be appealed.
- 1.15 The presiding officer shall maintain order and decorum in the chamber, shall prevent personal reflections or the impugning of the motive of any member during debate, and shall confine members in debate to the question at hand.
- 1.16 Pursuant to House rule 1.9, in the absence of the Speaker from chambers, the presiding officer shall decide points of order.

RULE 2

Appointed Officers

- 2.1 The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Speaker to assist in all parliamentary matters for which there shall be a call for assistance. If the Parliamentarian is not a delegate to the House, he shall sit as close as possible to the Speaker; and shall be absent only after having found a suitable replacement and with the consent of the Speaker.
- 2.2 The Sergeant at Arms shall be a cadet, selected from the Military College of South Carolina by its delegation chairman and shall be officially appointed to his position by the Speaker.
- 2.3 The Sergeant at Arms shall stand at the door of the House chamber and aid the Speaker in maintaining order and decorum.
- 2.4 The Sergeant at Arms shall be absent from his position only after having found a suitable replacement and with the consent of the Speaker.

2.5 The Chief Clerk Administrator shall be appointed by the Speaker to oversee the functions of any additional clerks and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, and to perform his duties as further outlined in the sections below.

2.6 Communications shall be prepared in writing by the Chief Clerk Administrator, presented to the Speaker for this signature, and sent to its destination.

2.7 The Chief Clerk Administrator shall cause to be kept a correct Journal of the proceedings of the House. He shall not permit any papers belonging to the House to be taken out of his custody other than in the regular course of business and then upon receipt when he deems necessary. He shall report any such receipts and missing papers to the Speaker directly and immediately.

2.8 The Chief Clerk Administrator shall record a seating chart and see that it is delivered to the Speaker and shall assist, under the direction of the Speaker, in taking roll call or division votes.

2.9 The Chief Clerk Administrator shall issue or cause to be issued, under the discretion of the Speaker, all warrants, and subpoenas, and shall serve as an ex officio member of all standing and special committees.

2.10 The Floor leader shall be appointed by the Speaker and act at his discretion

2.11 The Floor Leader shall serve as an ex officio member, possessing voting privileges only in the absence of the Speaker, of each non legislative committee.

2.12 The Assistant Floor Leader shall organize the speaker list with respect to time and order, opposite that of the Floor Leader, for each piece of legislation subject to the discretion of the Speaker.

2.13 Neither the Floor Leader nor Assistant Floor Leader may speak on a bill or resolution unless recognized by the Speaker.

RULE 3 **Privileges of the Floor**

3.1 The Floor of the House of Representatives shall be occupied only by its members and officers, and members of the Senate of the South Carolina Student Legislature, provided aides and officials of the State of South Carolina may also be present on the Floor. No executive officer, save those serving in their capacity as House officers, or visitor shall occupy the Floor without the expressed consent of the Speaker or by leave of the House, provided that any officer of SCSL may, in case of emergency, enter the House Chambers. No person, except a member of the House, shall occupy the chair of any Representative at any time, without consent of the

Speaker, except during a joint session of the South Carolina Student Legislature, save the state Representative to whom the seat belongs.

3.2 Members of either House of the South Carolina Legislature, The Governor, Lt. Governor, or other elected official may at any time address the House of Representatives, provided a motion of privilege is made by a member of the House no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to such an address. The Speaker may or may not grant the privilege subject to appeal as described herein. The member calling for the privilege shall escort the dignitary to the front podium of the House provided the Speaker is duly informed by the Sergeant at Arms. All pending business will be suspended until after the dignitary has concluded his speech. No such address shall exceed three(3) minutes.

3.3 All guest speakers to the House of Representatives shall be limited to a total time, cumulative, of fifteen(15) minutes, including questions.

3.4 The Speaker shall have the authority to void the aforementioned time constraints should he feel that it would reflect poorly upon the House of Representatives to remove any such speaker from the podium.

3.5 Reporters of public journals and broadcast media, upon application to the Press Secretary, shall be assigned places, under the supervision of a staff member from the Press Office, for the execution of their duties and shall not interfere with the convenience of the House.

RULE 4

Standing Committees

No standing committee shall sit during a session of the House without special leave from the Speaker.

RULE 5

House Committees

5.1 In addition to such committees for the consideration of bills and resolution, as provided for in the Constitution, there shall be a Committee on Rules made up solely of members of the House who shall be appointed by the Speaker and shall serve at his pleasure.

5.2 The House Committee on Rules shall consist of at least eight (8) members of the House appointed by the Speaker, three (3) of which shall be the Speaker Pro Tempore, the Floor Leader, and the Assistant Floor Leader; and shall have such powers and duties as herein described provided the Speaker may augment these powers and duties in such a manner to aid in the operation of the House as he sees fit, subject to appeal by the House.

5.3 All committee reports on House bills and resolutions shall be given to the Speaker of the House who may present same to the Committee on Rules. Bills and resolutions receiving "Do Not Pass", "Do Fail", "No Recommendation", or "No Consideration" may be granted a "Do Pass" recommendation by the Committee on Rules.

5.4 Time for debate shall be set at the opening of each session by the Speaker as recommended by the Committee on Rules.

RULE 6

Appropriations Committee

6.1 There shall be a House appropriations Committee made up solely of members of the House who shall be appointed by the Speaker and serve at his pleasure.

6.2 The House Appropriations Committee shall consider all matters regarding the budget of the South Carolina Student Legislature. Such a proposal will list, specifically and in detail, all revenues and expenditures expected.

6.3 The aforementioned proposal must be authored by at least one (1) fully credentialized House member and will be subject to a vote in the House of Representatives before being accepted as the House Budgetary Proposal.

RULE 7

Select Committees

Select committees shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and shall serve at his pleasure. Such committees shall be immediately dissolved after such time as their functions have been properly executed.

RULE 8

Order of Business

8.1 The House shall meet and adjourn each legislative day as prescribed in the agenda and operate according to the following guidelines, two-thirds (2/3) vote notwithstanding.

8.2 The Speaker and Speaker Pro Tempore shall set the House calendar, which shall, in increments of five motions, be displayed outside the door to Chambers.

8.3 Orders of the Day in the House of Representatives shall generally be any motion to override a gubernatorial veto, three(3) bills of the House of Representatives as reported to the Floor, two(2) bills passed by the Senate which have not been heard in the House, and finally any resolutions, save joint resolutions which shall be considered as bills.

RULE 9 Membership

9.1 Every Representative, when about to speak, shall rise, state his name and school, and respectfully address himself to "Madam Speaker", and shall avoid disrespect to the House ,and all personalities; observe decency of speech; and confine himself to the question under consideration.

9.2 No alternate shall be allowed on the floor of the House unless he has exchanged badges at the door with a Representative from his school.

9.3 Alternates and Delegates must wear name badges to certify proper status. any delegate may, at any time, grant his proxy to any alternate, solely for debating or voting on the final passage of legislation on which he has not participated in prior , for a period of time not to exceed one(!) legislative day.

RULE 10 General Procedures

10.1 A majority of the total number of Representatives shall constitute a quorum.

10.2 If at any time during the daily sessions of the House, a question shall be raised by any member as to the presence of a quorum, the presiding officer shall, without debate, shall direct the Chief Clerk Administrator to determine the presence or absence of a quorum; and shall announce the result.

10.3 Whenever it is ascertained that a quorum is not present, the House shall stand in recess until a quorum is present. If such a recess is necessary the Speaker may order the doors closed and all present Representatives confined to the chamber until a quorum is present. In such a case the Representatives may not be detained more than twenty (20) minutes.

RULE 11
Consideration of Bills and Resolutions

11.1 Any member may introduce Bills or Resolutions provided they are received by the Bill Book Coordinator no later than the deadline set by the Executive Board, and provided said bill or Resolution appears in the Bill Book.

11.2 Legislation shall be reported out of committee in writing to the Speaker, who shall offer it to the House Rules Committee, which shall add its report and return all material to the Speaker.

11.3 Both committee reports shall be read by the Chief Administrative Clerk immediately after the reading of the Bill or Resolution before the House.

11.4 Any Representative shall have the right to read the committee reports at any time provided that they be in the immediate vicinity of the Clerk's desk.

11.5 Each Bill and Resolution on the House Calendar shall be presented by the Author or a designated sponsor for not more than five (5) minutes followed by three (3) minutes of questions by the representatives.

11.6 Each Bill and Resolution on the Senate Calendar shall be presented by the author or a sponsor for not more than four (4) minutes followed by two (2) minutes of questions by the Representatives.

11.7 All questions shall be straightly asked and shall be in true question form without lengthy introduction or statement. Any question which is improperly stated shall be disallowed by the Speaker and the member shall resume his seat.

11.8 Proposals of "friendly" amendments are prohibited at any time.

11.9 Prior to the vote on a Bill or Resolution, the author shall have rights to a summation speech not to exceed one- eighth (1/8) the total time of debate given either the proponency or opponency.

RULE 12
Debate
Bills and Resolutions

12.1 Following the author's presentation and questioning, debate shall begin with a proponency speech and subsequently alternate between proponency and opponency allowing equal time to be allotted for each side.

12.2 Only those Representatives who have signed onto the proponency or opponency side of a Bill or Resolution may obtain recognition to speak from either the Floor Leader or Assistant Floor Leader. Those Representatives not so signed shall obtain the Speaker's recognition at the appropriate time as announced at the opening of session.

RULE 13

Voting

13.1 While a vote is in progress and until the completion of a vote, and the announcement of the result, no member shall be recognized and no other business may be transacted.

13.2 No member or other person shall visit or remain by the reading clerk's desk while a vote is in progress.

13.3 No member may vote for another member, nor may any person cast a vote for a member, except as otherwise provided for in these rules. A member who votes for another member, except as herein provided, may be punished in a manner the House determines.

13.4 The vote on any Bill or Resolution shall be a majority of those present and voting.

13.5 No member may vote or change his vote after the result has been announced by the Speaker.

RULE 14

Motions and their Precedence

14.1 No dilatory motion shall be entertained by the Speaker, prior precedence to the contrary notwithstanding.

14.2 A question before the House may be interrupted by:

- a. A message from the Governor or the Senate
- b. A point of order
- c. An appeal of the decision of the chair
- d. A point of personal privilege or privilege of the assembly
- e. A recess

- f. any other incidental motions such as dividing a question, withdrawing a motion, a motion to consider by paragraph or seriatim or the like of which the first five named may interrupt even a speech if in regard to a pressing matter.

14.3 When a question is under debate only those motions enumerated below shall be heard. Such motions shall require a simple majority vote unless otherwise specified; and appear below in order of precedence.

- a. To adjourn
- b. To postpone temporarily or to table
- c. To close debate or to call for the previous question (2/3 vote) d. to postpone to a definite time
- d. To amend
- e. To postpone indefinitely (to kill the motion) (2/3 vote)
- f. To object to consideration

14.4 The motion to postpone temporarily or to table shall not be used to kill a motion. The Speaker may, if he feels the intent is to kill, require a two-thirds(2/3) vote.

14.5 A motion to recess may state the time for reconvening and in the absence of such time stated, reconvening shall be at the call of the Speaker.

14.6 Any member shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Chair should he consider himself or the House aggrieved by such a decision. Immediately following the call for an appeal, the Chair must relinquish his position until the appeal is decided. The appeal shall not be debatable, save for one(!) minute to that member appealing to state the reasons for his appeal, and one(!) minute to the Chair for defense of his decision. The question of appeal shall be put in the following form: "Shall the decision of the Chair be the decision of the House?". Should the result of the vote be a majority of "nay's or a tie, the Chair's decision shall be overruled.

14.7 When a question shall have been once decided in the affirmative or negative any member, having voted in the majority, may move for reconsideration thereof. If the House shall refuse to reconsider, or upon reconsideration, shall reaffirm its first decision, no further motion shall be in order, except by unanimous consent.

14.8 A point of information shall be a question of substantive nature relating to the question before the House, and must be directed to the Chair, who may in turn direct the question to any member whom he shall see fit to answer.

14.9 A point of parliamentary inquiry shall be a question, about parliamentary procedure, directed to the Chair.

RULE 15

Consent Calendar

15.1 The Speaker may place a Bill or Resolution on the House Calendar for consent.

15.2 The short titles of the Bills and Resolutions on this calendar, any committee or Senate action and author's name will be read by the Chief Clerk Administrator to the members of the House. After such is read, the presiding officer will ask the members of the House three (3) if there be an objection. If there be objection, the Bill or Resolution may be placed on the Orders of the Day, pursuant to the Floor Leader and the Speaker, to be considered as though it had never been considered, unless the Bill or Resolution has received a "Do Pass" or a "Do Pass as Amended" recommendation, in which case previous question shall be in order while considering the calendar for consent.

15.3 The Consent Calendar shall be read to the members of the House during the first ten (10) minutes of each legislative day. At such times as the Speaker may decide. Should there be no Bills or Resolutions the Speaker feels should be placed on the Calendar for consent, the Calendar need not be used.

RULE 16

Gubernatorial Veto

The House shall override the veto of the Governor only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership.

RULE 17

Executive Session

When acting on confidential or executive business, the House shall be cleared of all persons except the Speaker, the Representatives, the Chief Clerk Administrator, the Parliamentarian, and the Sergeant at Arms by the call of the Speaker, two-thirds (2/3) of the House in opposition notwithstanding.

RULE 18
Discipline of Officers and Members

18.1 If the Speaker or Speaker Pro Tempore shall fail to lead the House in an orderly manner or otherwise fail in their duties at Fall Session as given in the Constitution (Art. X, Sec. 1, 2) the House may, by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the total membership of the House remove the Speaker or Speaker Pro Tempore from the position of Chair.

18.2 The House may impeach the Governor or Lt Governor according to Article X Section 1. In such a case, the House shall vote by two-thirds (2/3) to impeach with the Senate sitting as the jury of the trial.

18.3 Any Representative who continually transgresses the House Rules may be censured by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Any Representative, who is censured, shall not be permitted to speak or make motions.

18.4 Any Representative who, being censured, continues to defy the House may be expelled from the House by a three-fourths (3/4) vote.

RULE 19
Suspending and Amending Rules

19.1 Any of the House rules may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

19.2 Any amendment, rescission or repeal of any of the House rules shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership of the House.

RULE 20
Miscellaneous

20.1 In all cases not embraced in these rules the House shall be governed by such rules as are laid down in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

20.2 Whenever "he", "his", "him", or any other such pronoun appears in any rule, it shall be deemed to designate either masculine or feminine.

20.3 No smoking, food, or drinks are to be permitted in the House Chambers.

20.4 With the approval of the House, the Speaker shall appoint four(4) Representatives to sit on the Conference Committee, provided that no two(2) representatives shall be from the same delegation.

20.5 For the purposes of this document, "with leave of the House" or "with approval of the House" refer to the agreement of a majority of those present and voting.

Rules of the South Carolina Student Senate

RULE 1. Officers

1.1. The President shall take the chair at precisely the time specified in the official agenda, immediately call the members to order, and if a quorum be present, proceed to other business.

1.2. The President shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries or in the lobby, may cause the same to be cleared.

1.3. The President shall sign all acts, joint resolutions and other papers authorized by the Senate.

1.4. The President shall decide all points of order, subject to an appeal by any member.
(RONR
§23 pages 212-218)

1.5. The President shall vote only in the case of the vote being equally divided; in which case he may break the tie for the affirmative or let the tie stand in which case the vote shall be carried by the negative. The President may assign the reason for his vote. The President Pro Tempore shall vote as any other member even while presiding but if he has voted on a question and the vote is equally divided he shall not vote to break the tie.

1.6. The President Pro Tempore shall preside in the absence of the President. When not presiding, the President Pro Tempore shall participate on the floor in like manner to any other member. The President Pro Tempore shall not take the chair to preside on any matter on which he has participated in debate.

- 1.7. When the President Pro Tempore shall take the chair he shall continue to count as one of his delegation's Senators due to his membership in the Senate.
- 1.8. The President shall be addressed as "Mr. President" or "Madam President" depending on gender. While presiding, the President Pro Tempore shall be addressed in like manner unless the President shall be present in which case the President Pro Tempore shall be addressed "Mr. President Pro Temp" or "Madam President Pro Temp" depending on gender.
- 1.9. The Clerk of the Senate shall be appointed by the President to assist in record keeping. The Clerk shall be present at all sessions of the Senate. If the Clerk must be absent, a replacement shall be appointed, with the approval of the President.
- 1.10. The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the President to assist in all parliamentary matters for which there shall be a call for assistance. If the Parliamentarian is not a member of the Senate he shall sit as close as possible to the President. If the Parliamentarian is a member of the Senate he shall be seated as any other member and shall only advise the President at such time as he shall be called upon to approach the chair. The Parliamentarian shall absent himself only after having found a suitable replacement and with the consent of the President.
- 1.11. The Sergeant-at Arms shall be appointed by the President to aid him in maintaining order and decorum. The Sergeant-at Arms shall stand at the door of the Senate Chamber and be responsible for keeping the door and maintaining decorum in the Chamber and in the Antechamber. The Sergeant-at Arms shall absent himself only after having found a suitable replacement and with the consent of the President.

RULE 2. Membership

- 2.1. When the Senate is called to order, every member shall take his seat and shall act with decorum. If a member shall be called to order while speaking, he shall immediately take his seat until the question of order is decided, unless allowed to proceed upon explanation. If the question be in favor of the member, he shall proceed, if otherwise, he shall not proceed without leave of the Senate.
- 2.2. Every Senator, when about to speak, shall rise and respectfully address himself to "Mr. President," and shall avoid disrespect to the Senate or House, and all personalities; observe decency of speech; and confine himself to the question under consideration.
- 2.3. The President, when duly addressed by a member, shall hear from the Senator who, in the President's opinion, first addresses the President.
- 2.4. No Senator shall speak more than twice in debate on a Bill or Resolution, on the same day, without leave of the Senate.
- 2.5. A majority of the total number of Senators shall constitute a quorum.

2.6. At any time a member may raise the question of a quorum at which time the President shall order the floor cleared of all who are not Senators and the doors closed and shall establish if a quorum is present.

2.7. If a quorum is not present the Senate shall stand in recess until a quorum is present. If such a recess is necessary the President may order the doors closed and all present Senators confined to the chamber until a quorum is present. In such a case the Senators shall not be detained more than twenty (20) minutes if a quorum is not present.

2.8. The seats of the members shall be allotted in a fair and equitable manner by the President and the President Pro Tempore. Any alleged inequity of seating shall be privately brought to the attention of the President who, if he shall find the complaint just, shall order the seating fixed.

2.9. No alternate shall be on the floor of the Senate unless he has exchanged badges at the door with a Senator from his school. Furthermore, no alternate shall serve in the Senate who has already served in the House.

RULE 3.

Discipline, Censure and Expulsion of Officers and Members

3.1. If the President shall fail to lead the Senate in an orderly manner or otherwise fail in his duties at Fall Session as given in the Constitution (Article X, Sections 1 and 2) the Senate may request the House to impeach the Lieutenant Governor in which case the Senate shall serve as the jury and shall convict the Lieutenant Governor by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership.

3.2. If the President Pro Tempore shall fail to lead the Senate in an orderly manner or otherwise fail in his duties at Fall Session as given in the Constitution (Article X, Sections 1 and 2) the Senate may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership remove the President Pro Tempore from office. The removal from office of the President Pro Tempore does not constitute censure (3.5) or expulsion (3.6) unless specifically stated and thus he shall not be deprived of his right to speak or vote.

3.3. If the President Pro Tempore shall be removed or shall succeed the President, the Senate shall immediately nominate and elect another President Pro Tempore.

3.4. If the Governor or Lieutenant Governor is impeached within two weeks of, or during Fall Session, the Senate shall sit as the jury of the trial. The President shall yield the chair to the Chief Justice who shall decide the order of business for the trial.

3.5. Any Senator who continuously transgresses the Senate Rules may be censured by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Any Senator who is censured shall not be permitted to speak or make motions.

3.6. Any Senator who, being censured, continues to defy the Senate may be expelled from the Senate by a three-fourths (3/4) vote.

RULE 4.
Bills, Resolutions and Reports

4.1. Any member shall be able to introduce bills or resolutions which shall be received by the Bill Book Coordinator no later than the deadline set by the Executive Board.

4.2. No Senator shall present any Bill or Resolution other than those, which are published in the Bill Book without the unanimous consent of the Senate.

4.3. No Senator shall move to amend any matter before the Senate without presenting the amendment, neatly written out, to the Clerk.

4.4. No material which is improperly submitted shall be taken up by the Senate.

4.5. Bills shall be reported out of committee in writing to the President. Committee reports shall be read by the Clerk immediate after the reading of any bill or resolution before the Senate. Any Senator shall have the right to read the committee report at any time provided that no Senator shall remove the report from the immediate vicinity of the Clerk's desk.

4.6. Any Bill or Resolution not reported out of committee may be recalled by a majority vote of the Senate. Any such matter recalled shall be placed on the bottom of the Senate Calendar.

RULE 5.
Order of Business

5.1. The Senate shall meet each legislative day at 9:00 a.m. or, if the Joint session shall be long, within ten (10) minutes of the close of the joint Session.

5.2. On any legislative day, unless a majority of the members shall object, the Senate shall adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Furthermore, the Senate shall recess from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch on any legislative day unless a majority shall stipulate otherwise.

5.3. The President and President Pro Tempore shall set the Senate Calendar which shall be published to all Senators.

5.4. The Clerk shall obtain the House Calendar and publish it to all Senators.

5.5. The Senate shall first take up three Bills or Resolutions from the Senate Calendar and then shall take up two Bills or Resolutions from the House Calendar.

5.6. The Order of Business above provided may be varied by the vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the Senators present and voting. A motion to vary the orders of the day shall be in order, prior to, or at the completion of, any order enumerated above.

RULE 6.
Voting

6.1. Upon any question, at the request of five members, the President shall take a rising vote. If such a vote is still in question the same, or other, five members may call for a counted rising vote.

6.2. The question on any Bill or Resolution shall be put as a counted rising vote and the President shall announce the results of the vote.

6.3. No member shall be permitted to vote or change his vote after the decision shall have been announced by the President.

6.4. The vote on all Bills and Resolutions shall be a majority of those present and voting.

6.5. The Senate shall override the veto of the Governor only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership of the Senate.

RULE 7.
Motions and their Precedence

7.1. No dilatory motion shall be entertained by the President, prior precedents to the contrary notwithstanding.

7.2. A question before the Senate shall be suspended by:

- a. A message from the Governor or the House.
- b. A point of order. (RONR §23 pages 212-218)
- c. An appeal from the decision of the chair. (RONR §24 pages 218-222)
- d. A point of personal privilege or privilege of the assembly. (RONR §19 pages 191-196)
- e. A recess. (RONR §20 pages 196-199)

l Any other incidental motions such as dividing a question, withdrawing a motion, a motion to consider by paragraph or seriatim (RONR §28 pages 233-237), or the like; of which the five first named may interrupt even a speech if in regard to a pressing matter.

7.3. When a question is under debate only those motions herein below shall be received. Such motions shall require a simple majority vote unless otherwise specified.

- a. To adjourn. (RONR §21 pages 199-207)
- b. To postpone temporarily (or to table).
- c. To close debate or to call for the previous question (two-thirds vote).
- d. To postpone to a time definite.
- e. To amend. (RONR §12 pages 108-140)
- f. To postpone indefinitely (to kill the motion) (two-thirds vote)
- g. To object to consideration. (RONR §26 pages 227-233)

These motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are hereinabove arranged.

7.4. The motion to postpone temporarily or to table shall not be used to kill a motion. The President may, if he feels that the intent is to kill, require a two-thirds (2/3) vote. (RONR §26 pages 182-183)

7.5. A motion to recess may state the time for reconvening and in the absence of such time stated, reconvening shall be at the call of the President.

7.6. Any decision of the President may be appealed from by any member. The member shall state the reasons for his appeal. Then the President shall state the reasons for his decision after which the Chair shall put the question. The assembly must vote by majority in the negative or tie to overrule the chair. (RONR §24 pages 218-222)

7.7. When a question shall have been once decided in the affirmative or negative, any member may move for reconsideration thereof. If the Senate shall refuse to reconsider, or, upon reconsideration, shall affirm its first decision, no further motion shall be in order, except by unanimous consent.

7.8. A point of information shall be a question, directed to the chair, who may direct the question to any member whom he shall see fit to answer, of substantive nature relating to the question before the Senate. (RONR §32 pages 243-244,245-246)

7.9. A point of parliamentary inquiry shall be a question, directed to the chair, about parliamentary procedure. (RONR §32 pages 243-244,245)

RULE S 8
Admission to the Floor of the Senate

8.1. No person who is not a member of the Senate or an officer of the Senate shall be admitted to the Senate to that area behind the rail while the Senate is in session or in recess during a session, except as follows, viz.: immediate family members of a Senator; Members of the House of Representatives and their Clerk, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms; Former members of the Senate and House of Representatives; the Governor; State Officials; and alternates. Except for sitting members of the House of Representatives, none of the here in above enumerate ted shall be allowed on

The floor of the Senate inside the rail. During Voting only Senators and alternates who have replaced Senators shall be on the floor in front of the rail.

8.2. Reporters of public journals and broadcast media, upon application to the Press Secretary, shall be assigned places, under the supervision of a staff member from the Press Office, for the execution of their duties as shall not interfere with the convenience of the Senate. Reporters shall be allowed in the area behind the rail in specific locations as designated by the Press Office and are strictly prohibited from conducting interviews whether or not initiated by a member of the media or a member of the Senate.

8.3. No person other than the herein enumerated shall be allowed in the Senate Antechamber.

RULE 9. Debate on Bills and Resolutions

9.1. Each Bill or Resolution on the Senate Calendar shall be presented by the author or a sponsor from his delegation for not more than five (5) minutes followed by three (3) minutes of questions by the Senators.

9.2. Each Bill or Resolution on the House Calendar shall be presented by the author or a sponsor from his delegation for not more than four (4) minutes followed by two (2) minutes of questions by the Senators.

9.3. All questions shall be straightly asked and shall be in true question form without lengthy introduction or statement. Any question which is improperly stated shall be disallowed by the President and the member shall resume his seat.

9.4. While the author is being questioned any senator may offer a "friendly amendment" by rising, obtaining the floor and saying, "Would the author be favorable to amending this Bill (or Resolution) by...." If the author shall agree and no Senator shall object then the Bill or Resolution shall stand amended.

RULE 10. Executive Session

10.1. When acting on confidential or executive business the Senate shall be cleared of all persons except the President, the Senators, the Clerk of the Senate, the Parliamentarian and the Sergeant-at- Arms.

RULE 11.
Suspending and Amending Rules

11.1. Any of the Senate rules may be suspended by a two-thirds vote.

11.2. Any permanent amendment, rescission or repeal of any of the Senate rules shall require a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Senate.

RULE 12.
Miscellaneous

12.1. In all cases not embraced in these rules the Senate shall be governed by such rules as are laid down in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. Note: The sign RONR in the text of these rules refers to this authority.

12.2. Whenever "he", "his", "him" or any other such pronoun appears in any Rule, it shall be deemed to designate either masculine or feminine.

12.3. No smoking, food or drink is permitted in the Senate Chambers.

12.4. The President shall appoint three (3) Senators to sit on the Conference committee, provided no two senators shall be from the same school.

12.5. For the purpose of this document, "with leave of the Senate" or "with approval of the Senate" shall refer to the concurrence of a majority of those present and voting.

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**The Constitution of the
South Carolina Student Legislature**

**Article I
Name**

Section 1. This organization shall be called the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Article II
Purpose**

Section 1. This organization shall be formed to provide a forum in which students may experience the full range of legislative activity, to promote student input into public policy-making in South Carolina, and to educate students about the functions of democratic government.

Section 2. The motto of this organization shall be “Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility.”

Article III

Membership

Section 1. The membership of the South Carolina Student Legislature shall be composed of delegates from South Carolina’s universities and colleges.

Section 2. Each delegation shall select its members from the student body of the institution that it represents.

Section 3. For the purpose of this document, “students” shall be interpreted to include all those with the privileges of an undergraduate student at the member institution. No student shall serve as a delegate for more than five (5) years.

Section 4. Delegations may reserve the right to dismiss a delegate during session solely on the basis that the delegate has violated the delegation and/or school conduct rules, has been arrested for a crime while at session, became ill or injured and must return home, or in case of emergency.

Section 5. A delegation shall obtain membership at such time as it pays its registration fees, registers with the Governor, and the state officers approve the registration.

42 **Section 6.** A new member delegation shall be defined as a school not having participated
43 previously or for a period of three (3) consecutive years.
44

45 **Section 7.** Upon approval of the registration and the receipt of the dues, the Governor shall
46 issue to the delegation an official letter recognizing it as a member delegation.
47

48 **Section 8.** All memberships are for the calendar year and shall expire upon the thirty-first
49 day of December.
50

51 **Article IV**

52 **Officers**

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54 **Section 1.** The elected officers of the organization shall be the Governor, the Lieutenant
55 Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate,
56 and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House. These officers shall be members of
57 the Executive Committee. In addition, the Comptroller General and Fundraising
58 Chair shall be elected officers, but shall not be members of the Executive
59 Committee.
60

61 **Section 2.** In addition to the above officers, the Governor shall appoint, with the consent of
62 the Executive Committee, a Secretary of State, an Attorney General, a Treasurer,
63 and a Chief Justice of the Court. For the purpose of this document, “consent of
64 the Executive Committee” shall mean a majority of the members of the
65 committee.
66

67 **Section 3.** The Governor shall have full power, with the consent of the Executive
68 Committee, to create and fill any other office that the Governor deems necessary
69 to the South Carolina Student Legislature.
70

71 **Section 4.** No person shall hold more than one office at a time.
72

73 **Section 5.** The officer terms shall coincide with the calendar year.
74

75 **Section 6.** Each candidate for office shall be a student in good standing with the institution
76 he attends.
77

78 **Section 7.** A candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, or
79 Comptroller General shall have attended one previous Fall Session and one
80 previous Spring Session before the session in which he seeks office. The Speaker
81 of the House shall be a member of the House during the session in which he seeks
82 office. The Lieutenant Governor must be a member of the Senate during the
83 session in which he seeks office.
84

85 **Section 8.** A candidate for President *Pro Tempore*, Speaker *Pro Tempore* or *Fundraising*
 86 *Chair* must have been registered members for at least two (2) previous sessions
 87 before the session in which he seeks office. The President *Pro Tempore* shall be a
 88 member of the Senate during the session in which he seeks office. The Speaker
 89 *Pro Tempore* shall be a member of the House during the session in which he
 90 seeks office.

91
 92 **Section 9.** In the event that the office of President *Pro Tempore* or Speaker *Pro Tempore*
 93 shall become vacant at any time other than that immediately preceding Fall
 94 Session, the Governor, with the consent of the Executive Committee, shall
 95 appoint a qualified replacement. Any appointment of a new President *Pro*
 96 *Tempore* or Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall be confirmed by the respective chamber
 97 at the next Fall Session. In the event that the office of President *Pro Tempore* or
 98 Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall become vacant at a time immediately preceding Fall
 99 Session, the chamber concerned, as its first order of business, shall hold
 100 nominations and elections to fill the vacancy. For the purpose of this document,
 101 “immediately preceding” shall mean a period of two (2) months prior to the first
 102 day of the upcoming event.
 103

104 *Article V*

105 **Powers and Duties of Officers**

106
 107 **Section 1.** The Governor shall:
 108 A. With the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, have the power to
 109 form a Cabinet to perform the duties of the Executive Branch designated to
 110 them by the Governor, to include the following positions and any others
 111 designated by the Governor as necessary to the operations of the South
 112 Carolina Student Legislature:
 113 i. Secretary of State
 114 ii. Attorney General
 115 iii. Chief Justice
 116 iv. Treasurer
 117 B. Have full power, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to create and
 118 fill any other office which the Governor deems necessary to the South
 119 Carolina Student Legislature;
 120 C. With the advice of the Executive Committee, have full power to establish and
 121 maintain an “Office of the Governor” for his assistance and to perform the
 122 duties designated by the Governor as necessary to the operations and
 123 execution of the powers of the Governor of the South Carolina Student
 124 Legislature
 125 i. The Governor shall have full power to appoint a Chief of Staff to
 126 manage and coordinate the operations of the Office of the
 127 Governor

- 128 D. Represent South Carolina Student Legislature throughout the State of South
 129 Carolina and the United States;
 130 E. Present the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions” to the Governor and the General
 131 Assembly of South Carolina;
 132 F. Report to the South Carolina Student Legislature at the Fall Session on the
 133 state of the organization;
 134 G. Preside over all Interim Meetings;
 135 H. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;
 136 I. Sign or veto all legislation that has passed the House and the Senate during
 137 Session.
 138

139 **Section 2.** The Lieutenant Governor shall:

- 140 A. Assume the duties of the Governor in the event the Governor vacates the
 141 office of Governor or is incapable of fulfilling the duties of the office;
 142 B. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
 143 C. Preside over the Senate, but shall have no vote except in the event of a tie;
 144 D. With the consent of the Senate, appoint three (3) members of that body, no
 145 two (2) of whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the Conference
 146 Committee;
 147 E. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;
 148 F. Be responsible for the publication of the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions;”
 149 G. Be responsible for the compilation and publication of the Bill Book;
 150 H. Be responsible, with the Speaker of the House, for the organization and
 151 distribution of a legislation calendar for Fall Session.
 152

153 **Section 3.** The Speaker of the House shall:

- 154 A. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
 155 B. Preside over the House as a member of the House;
 156 C. With the consent of the House, appoint four (4) members or that body,
 157 no two (2) of whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the
 158 Conference Committee;
 159 D. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;
 160 E. Be responsible, with the Lieutenant Governor, for the organization and
 161 distribution of a legislation calendar for Fall Session.
 162

163 **Section 4.** The President *Pro Tempore* shall:

- 164 A. Assume the duties of the Lieutenant Governor in the event that the
 165 Lieutenant Governor vacates the office of Lieutenant Governor or is
 166 incapable of fulfilling the duties of the office;
 167 B. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
 168 C. Preside over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor;
 169

170 **Section 5.** The Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall:

- 171 A. Assume the duties of the Speaker of the House in the event the Speaker of the
 172 House vacates the office of Speaker of the House or is incapable of fulfilling
 173 the duties of the office;
 174 B. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;
 175 C. Preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker of the House;
 176

177 **Section 6.** The Secretary of State shall:

- 178 A. Assist and advise the Governor in all matters in which the Governor
 179 shall need aid;
 180 B. Prepare the minutes and records of interim meetings and Spring
 181 Session;
 182 C. Be responsible, with the Attorney General, for the reapportionment of
 183 each Delegation prior to Fall Session;
 184 D. Assist the Election and Awards Committee in the execution of their
 185 duties as that committee may deem appropriate;
 186 E. Receive the certified results from the Election Chair of the Election
 187 and Awards Committee.
 188

189 **Section 7.** The Attorney General shall:

- 190 A. Serve as Prosecutor before the Trial Committee;
 191 B. Be replaced as Prosecutor if impeached;
 192 C. Serve as a member of the Constitutional Committee;
 193 D. Be responsible, with the Secretary of State, for the reapportionment of
 194 each Delegation prior to Fall Session.
 195 E. Shall determine the constitutionality of legislation, under the
 196 Constitution the State of South Carolina, whose constitutionality has
 197 been called into question on the floor. The legislation shall be tabled
 198 for review by the Attorney General. Upon a decision The Attorney
 199 General shall recommend to the body a course of action based on his
 200 decision within one hour from when he receives it. In the absence of
 201 the Attorney General, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall
 202 perform these duties.
 203

204 **Section 8.** Chief Justice of the Court shall:

- 205 A. Rule on the constitutionality of legislation under the Constitution of the State of
 206 South Carolina in the absence of the Attorney General.
 207 B. Preside over special sessions of the Supreme Court as outlined in Article VII.
 208 C. Serve as Chairman of the Trial Committee;
 209 D. Serve as Chairman of the Constitutional Committee;
 210 E. Obtain and distribute the trial case to be used in the Supreme Court hearings at
 211 session no later than 30 days prior to session.
 212

213 **Section 9.** The Treasurer shall:

- 214 A. Keep a current account of all funds of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
 215 B. Serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee;

- 216 C. Prepare and present the annual operating budget;
- 217 D. Abide by the Policies and Procedures set forth in the Treasurer Manual;

218

219 **Section 10.** The Fall Session Committee Chairmen shall:

- 220 A. Chair their respective committees at Fall Session;
- 221 B. Serve on the Trial Committee.
- 222 C. Serve as members of the Election and Awards Committee.

223

224 **Section 11.** The Comptroller General shall:

- 225 A. Perform an annual internal audit of the organization and prepare an audit report to
226 be presented to the SCSL General Assembly in Joint Session.
- 227 B. Present the audit report to the General Assembly as the first order of business at
228 the first joint session of the first full day of the Fall Session.
- 229 C. Coordinate with external auditors through the course of any external audit of
230 SCSL.
- 231 D. Documented approval from the Comptroller General shall be required for
232 disbursements of more than \$150. A documented unanimous vote of the
233 Finance Committee may override disapproval from the Comptroller General.
234 Email or written notation is sufficient to constitute documentation.

235

236

Article VI
Meetings

237

238

239 **Section 1.** Notice of all meetings shall be given no less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

240

241 **Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall call all meetings.

242

243 **Section 3.** The Executive Committee shall propose the order of business and business to be
244 conducted.

245

246 **Section 4.** The meetings shall be:

- 247 A. Spring Session;
- 248 B. Fall Session;
- 249 C. Interim Meetings.

250 **Section 5.** Spring Session:

251A. Spring Session shall be presided over by all presiding officers of the Executive Committee;

252B. Each Delegation in attendance is entitled to one vote for the following purposes:

- 253 1. Amendments or revisions of the Constitution;
- 254 2. Election of Fall Session Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen in accordance
255 with Article IX;
- 256 3. Any other business deemed by the Executive Committee to be pertinent to the
257 South Carolina Student Legislature.

258C. Legislation:

- 259 1. Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by order of the Executive
260 Committee;

- 261 2. Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:
 262 i. Be approved by the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
 263 ii. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all
 264 legislation found in bill book.
- 265 3. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the
 266 President *Pro Tempore* and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of legislation for
 267 the chambers;
- 268 4. A bill or resolution passing the joint session shall be presented to the Governor for
 269 approval;
- 270 5. All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor's veto shall be
 271 included in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions;"
- 272 6. All legislation presented to the Governor will be signed or vetoed and returned to the
 273 chamber prior to the time scheduled for adjournment of the joint session. The legislative
 274 body, by a two-thirds vote, may extend its session and consider only those pieces of
 275 legislation vetoed and returned by the Governor.
- 276 7. Any legislation passed and not signed or vetoed by the Governor after the final
 277 adjournment, including any extended session, shall be considered approved by the
 278 Governor and ordered printed in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions."

279D. Registration Fees

- 280 1. Member dues will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of the
 281 Finance Committee.
 282

283 **Section 6.** Fall Session:

284A. Fall Session shall be an annual student legislature, modeled after the General Assembly of South
 285 Carolina and shall be comprised of a Senate, a House of Representatives, and a Supreme Court;

286B. Elections for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, President *Pro*
 287 *Tempore* of the Senate, and Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House shall be held as the first order of
 288 business at the first joint session on the last day.

289C. Each member school shall be represented by a delegation consisting of:

- 290 1. A chairman, and;
 291 2. Two (2) delegates per school, and;
 292 3. One delegate for each 200 full time undergraduate students for the first 1,000 students
 293 (5 possible), and;
 294 4. One delegate for each 1,000 full time undergraduate students from 1,000 to 10,000 (9
 295 possible), and;
 296 5. One delegate for each 3,000 full time undergraduate students from 10,000 up;
 297 6. All numbers shall be rounded up if the numbers exceed by more than 50 percent (50
 298 percent plus 1) the previous population bracket.

299 D. No more than two (2) of these delegates shall serve in the Senate and the
 300 remainder shall compose the House Delegation. Each serving delegate shall
 301 be entitled to one vote.

302 E. Delegates must be present in order to cast a vote. A student from the
 303 delegate's institution may step in to vote for a missing delegate provided that
 304 the student pays his registration fees prior to voting.

- 305 F. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall obtain from each member
306 delegation a statement signed by the registrar of that institution listing the number of
307 full-time undergraduate students.
- 308 1. The enrollment statement must be received before Fall Session ends
309 on the final day in order for the delegation to receive its full quota of
310 members.
 - 311 2. The Secretary of State and Attorney General shall calculate the membership allowed for each
312 delegation and inform the delegation chairmen of their findings regarding the populations
313 and votes allotted to each school. Reapportionment and notification of the chairmen shall
314 occur at every Fall Session.
 - 315 3. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall make the number of voting members
316 as well as the total number of full-time undergraduate students available to all of the
317 delegations having membership in the South Carolina Student Legislature.
 - 318 4. Any delegation tardy in the provision of its enrollment statement or found falsifying its
319 enrollment statement shall be punished by the suspension of member votes. The Executive
320 Committee shall determine the specific number.
- 321 G. Legislation:
- 322 1. Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by order of the
323 Executive Committee;
 - 324 2. Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:
 - 325 iii. Be approved by the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
 - 326 iv. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all
327 legislation found in bill book.
 - 328 3. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall assign each bill or
329 resolution to a committee.
 - 330 4. Legislation which passes committee shall be assigned to its chamber by the
331 Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House;
 - 332 5. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the
333 President *Pro Tempore* and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of
334 legislation for their respective chambers;
 - 335 6. Once a bill or resolution passes one chamber, it shall be transferred to the
336 calendar of the opposite chamber;
 - 337 7. A bill or resolution passing both chambers shall be presented to the Governor for
338 approval;
 - 339 8. All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor's veto shall be
340 included in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions;"
 - 341 9. All legislation passed in differing forms in the chambers shall be reviewed and
342 revised by the Conference Committee.
 - 343 10. All legislation presented to the Governor will be signed or vetoed and returned to
344 the chamber in which it originated prior to the time scheduled for adjournment of
345 the Senate and House. Each chamber may, by a two-thirds vote, extend its
346 session and consider only those pieces of legislation vetoed and returned by the
347 Governor.
 - 348 11. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and vetoed by the Governor,
349 subsequent to the adjournment of the regular session of the Senate and House,

350 may be sent to the chamber in which it originated during an extended session held
 351 in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, G, 10 of this document.

352 12. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and not signed or vetoed by the
 353 Governor after the final adjournment of the Senate and House, including any
 354 extended session, shall be considered approved by the Governor and ordered
 355 printed in the "Journal of Acts and Resolutions."

356 H. Both chambers shall abide by their respective rules, which shall be amended or revised as
 357 the first order of business when the chambers convene.

358 I. Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not serve in the
 359 opposite chamber unless under extenuating circumstances as approved by the
 360 Executive Committee. However, the replacement may not vote or participate in
 361 debate on bills he has already debated and voted on. The replacement may also not
 362 run for any awards from the House once he has joined the Senate.

363 J. Only voting members of the Senate and House may be present on their respective
 364 floors unless presenting legislation or appearing by the body.

365 K. Registration fees

366 1. Registration fees will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of
 367 the Finance Committee.

368

369 **Section 7. Interim Meetings:**

370 A. Interim Meetings shall be called by the Executive Committee between Sessions in
 371 order to carry on the business of the organization;

372 B. The Executive Committee shall call at least two (2) Interim Meetings a year;

373 C. On all items of business conducted at an Interim Meeting, each Delegation in
 374 attendance shall be allowed one vote;

375

376

377

Article VII The Supreme Court

378 **SECTION 1. Supreme Court.**

379 The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, any three of
 380 whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chief Justice shall preside,
 381 and in his absence the senior Associate Justice. In all cases decided by the Supreme Court, the
 382 concurrence of three of the Justices shall be necessary for a reversal of the judgment below

383 **SECTION 2. Election of members of Supreme Court.**

384 The members of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice
 385 shall receive resumes and choose the Associate Justices prior to the spring session. No more than
 386 two (2) justices shall be chosen from the same delegation.

387 **SECTION 3. Jurisdiction of Supreme Court.**

- 388 A. The Supreme Court shall have power to review the trial case presented by the Chief
 389 Justice. The ruling of the Supreme Court will determine brief awards which are outlined
 390 in Article XII of the Constitution of Student Legislature.
 391
- 392 B. The Supreme Court shall constitute a court for the correction of errors at law under such
 393 regulations as the General Assembly may prescribe.
 394
 395
- 396 C. If legislation is passed and signed into law but its constitutionality under the Constitution
 397 of the State of South Carolina is contested, The Chief Justice shall call a special session
 398 of the Supreme Court to review the law. The special session may be called no sooner than
 399 six (6) hours following the question of the law's constitutionality with exception to the
 400 last day of session. Where it will be reviewed at the earliest possible time. The review
 401 process will allow the delegate who has questioned the constitutionality of legislation to
 402 present his argument before the Supreme Court and the legislation author to refute those
 403 arguments. The legislation author may receive help from his delegation for his defense.
 404 The Supreme Court shall publish a decision no later than one (1) hour following the
 405 hearing.
 406
 407

408 *Article VIII*

409 **Committees**

410 **Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall:

- 411 A. Consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, the
 412 President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House, and
 413 shall be chaired by the Governor;
 414 B. Approve all officers appointed by the Governor;
 415 C. Call all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
 416 D. Be responsible to plan all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
 417 E. Review and approve an annual budget;
 418 F. Appoint three (3) members-at-large to the Constitutional Committee;
 419
 420

421 **Section 2.** The Finance Committee shall:

- 422 A. Consist of the Treasurer, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of
 423 the House, and be chaired by the Treasurer;
 424 B. Prepare the annual budget no later than the last Interim meeting before Fall Session;
 425 C. Set and levy registration fees;
 426 D. Solicit funds for South Carolina Student Legislature;
 427 E. Approve all disbursements and reimbursements;
 428 F. Review and revise the Treasurer Manual before Spring Session annually.
 429

430 **Section 3.** The Trial Committee shall:

- 431 A. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court and all Delegation Chairmen of the member
 432 the schools, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
 433 B. Hear all parties involved in an impeachment and shall convict or acquit the accused;
 434 C. In the event that the Chief Justice of the Court is unable to serve under this provision,
 435 the remaining committee members shall replace him with an Associate Justice to be
 436 confirmed by the Executive Committee.
 437 D. In the event that a Delegation Chairman is unable to serve, the Vice-Chairman from
 438 his delegation shall replace him.
 439 E. Quorum for the Trial Committee will be three-fourths (3/4) of the member schools.
 440 F. The Chief Justice of the Court shall call all meetings of the Trial Committee and shall
 441 give notice as prescribed in Article VI, Section 1;
 442 G. The accused and the Attorney General shall submit a list of witnesses to the Chief
 443 Justice of the Court, who shall summon them to the trial.

444 **Section 4.** The Constitutional Committee shall:

- 445 A. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court, the Attorney General, and three (3)
 446 members-at-large to be appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall be chaired
 447 by the Chief Justice of the Court;
 448 B. Not allow any of the members-at-large to be from the same school as the Chief
 449 Justice of the Court or the Attorney General;
 450 C. Review, prepare, and circulate any needed amendments or revisions to the
 451 Constitution.
 452

453 **Section 5.** The Election and Awards Committee shall:

- 454 A. Consist of the Chairmen of the following committees:
 455 1. Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
 456 2. Committee on Education
 457 3. Committee on Judiciary
 458 4. Committee on Labor Commerce and Industry
 459 5. Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public
 460 Administration
 461 6. Committee on Miscellaneous
 462 7. Committee on Ways and Means
 463 B. And shall be chaired by the Chair of the Committee on Judiciary.
 464 C. No member of the Committee who has been nominated for an award or is running for
 465 office shall continue to serve on the Committee. In this case the respective vice chair
 466 will take his place on the Committee. In the case that the vice chair is also running
 467 for office or nominated for an award, the replacement shall be appointed by the
 468 Governor with the consent of the Executive Committee.
 469 D. Secretary of State shall assist the committee in making such preparations as it deems
 470 necessary, and shall be tasked with submitting all results to the Governor.
 471 E. The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall count the
 472 ballots in all elections of the South Carolina Student Legislature.
 473 F. Oversee the determination of the award honorees and recipients in accordance with
 474 Article XI.

475 G. The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall submit a
 476 teller’s report as discussed in section 44 of *Robert’s Rules of Order; Newly Revised*.
 477 This report shall be sent to the Executive Committee and be available to any
 478 delegation upon request.

- 479
 480 **Section 6.** The Fall Session Committees shall:
 481 A. Consist of:
 482 1. The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources;
 483 2. The Committee on Education;
 484 3. The Committee on Judiciary;
 485 4. The Committee on Labor, Commerce, and Industry;
 486 5. The Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public
 487 Administration;
 488 6. The Committee on Miscellaneous;
 489 7. The Committee on Ways and Means.
 490 B. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the seven (7) committees shall be elected at
 491 Spring Session in accordance with Article IX;
 492 C. The Fall Session Committees shall consider all legislation assigned to them by the
 493 Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House and shall report on the legislation
 494 to the respective officers of the House and Senate;
 495 D. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of each committee shall rank all legislation passed
 496 through their committee for review by the officers of the chambers.
 497

- 498 **Section 7.** The Conference Committee shall:
 499 A. Consist of seven (7) members, three (3) Senators and four (4) Representatives,
 500 appointed by their respective presiding officers;
 501 B. Resolve all differences between legislation passed by both chambers.
 502

503
 504 **Article IX**
 505 **Finances**
 506

507 **Section 1:** The Executive Committee shall, each year, through the office of the Treasurer,
 508 provide the South Carolina Student Legislature with an annual operating budget. The
 509 presentation of the annual operating budget shall be done by the Treasurer to the
 510 General Assembly during Fall Session.
 511

512 **Section 2:** The Executive Committee shall insure, through the operating budget presented, that
 513 the annual expenditure of the South Carolina Student Legislature does not exceed the
 514 annual South Carolina Student Legislature revenue. The budget shall include all
 515 annual expenditures that are greater than 25 dollars.
 516

517 **Section 3:** The treasurer shall make available for review an annual financial report upon request.
 518 The review shall be available by fall session.
 519

520 **Section 4:** The presentation of the operational budget shall be at the first joint session of the first
521 full eight-hour day of Fall Session. The new operating budget must be passed by the
522 South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly prior to the conclusion of Fall
523 Session.
524

525 **Section 5:** In the event that any one of (1) the operating budget, (2) actual revenues or (3) actual
526 expenditures exceeds Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) the Comptroller General
527 shall provide for and obtain an annual external audit of the finances of the South
528 Carolina Student Legislature by a reputable external audit of the finances of the South
529 Carolina Student Legislature by a reputable certified public accountant for so long as
530 the budget continues to exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), or as long as the
531 Executive Committee deems it necessary. The Auditor's Report shall be emailed to
532 all chairs within two (2) days of its receipt and be presented and explained by the
533 Comptroller General to the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly as
534 the first order of business at the first joint session of the first full day of the next Fall
535 or Spring Session. The audit report shall also be made available on the South Carolina
536 Student Legislature website.
537
538

539 **Article X** 540 **Elections**

541
542 **Section 1.** Nominations for officers shall be taken in Joint Session by nomination from the floor.
543 Nominations shall be taken until the close of the final Joint Session of the day prior to
544 voting at Fall Session.
545

546 **Section 2.** The officers shall be elected by secret ballot and submitted to the Election and
547 Awards Committee during the first joint session on the last day of session.
548

549 **Section 3.** The officers shall be elected by secret ballot, which shall be given to the chair of each
550 delegation to be completed in accordance with such rules as may have been adopted
551 by the delegation. The completed ballot shall be submitted to the Election and
552 Awards Committee during the first joint session on the last day of the session as
553 prescribed by the Election and Awards Committee.
554

555 **Section 4.** An officer shall be elected by a majority of the legal ballots cast.
556

557 **Section 5.** The Senate and the House of Representatives shall elect the Governor, and the
558 Lieutenant Governor.
559

560 **Section 6.** The Senate shall elect the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate.
561

562 **Section 7.** The House of Representatives shall elect the Speaker of the House and the Speaker
563 *Pro Tempore* of the House.
564

565 **Section 8.** The Chair of the Election and Awards Committee shall preside over the elections. In
 566 the event that the Chair of the Election and Awards Committee is running for office,
 567 he shall resign as Chair of the Election and Awards Committee, and the Governor
 568 shall appoint a replacement with the consent of the Executive Committee.
 569

570 **Section 9.** The Elections shall be conducted as follows:

- 571 A. All candidates shall be listed on an official election ballot(s) as deemed official by the
 572 Election and Awards Committee.
- 573 B. All Ballots shall be handed out to the respective delegation chairs following the last
 574 joint session of the session.
- 575 C. One ballot shall be given to each delegation chair for each member of that delegation,
 576 based on the number of votes assigned to that delegation in accordance with Article
 577 VI of this Constitution.
- 578 D. A delegate can only place his name on the ballot for a single office and cannot be
 579 listed more than once.
- 580 E. The candidates will be listed on the Ballot in the order that their nominations are
 581 received by the assembly.
- 582 F. Ballots which do not clearly identify the preference of the voter shall not be counted.
 583

584 **Article XI** 585 **Discipline of Officers** 586

587 **Section 1.** Any elected or appointed officer may be removed from office for the following:

- 588 A. Failure to discharge the duties of his office;
- 589 B. Behavior determined by the body to be demeaning to the integrity of the South
 590 Carolina Student Legislature.
 591

592 **Section 2.** Specific charges against the officer must be presented at any meeting of the Trial
 593 Committee. Upon a two-thirds vote of the present committee members, the officer
 594 in question shall be impeached.
 595

596 **Section 3.** The impeached officer shall remain in office and he shall have until the next
 597 meeting of the members to prepare a defense. The elected officers will determine
 598 the time between the two meetings thus stated. The officer in question will have a
 599 minimum of 72 hours to prepare a defense.
 600

601 **Section 4.** Following impeachment charges, a hearing consisting of no less than 3/4
 602 members, shall be held to consider all charges made against the impeached
 603 officer.
 604

605 **Section 5.** At the hearing all charges and evidence shall be brought forth in front of the Trial
 606 Committee. The impeached officer shall be afforded a maximum time allotted to
 607 deliver a defense, and shall have final remarks before a vote is taken.
 608
 609

610 **Section 6.** Upon a 3/4 vote of the trial committee present, the impeached officer shall be
 611 removed from office.

612
 613 **Section 7.** Any vacancies created by the discipline of the Trial Committee shall be filled
 614 according to the method laid out in the Constitution of the South Carolina Student
 615 Legislature.

617 **Article XII**
 618 **Awards**

619
 620 **Section 1.** The Carlisle Award is given annually at Fall Session in honor of the founder of the
 621 South Carolina Student Legislature, Dr. Douglas Carlisle. The Carlisle Award is
 622 awarded to the delegate or Officer who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, best
 623 represents the ideals of the South Carolina Student Legislature.

624
 625 **Section 2.** The Best Senator Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Senator who shows
 626 himself to be an accomplished speaker and conscientious statesman. The Senators
 627 shall nominate candidates for the Best Senator Award and then each Senator shall
 628 cast one vote for one of the nominees. The Lieutenant Governor shall cast a vote in
 629 case of a tie. The Election and Awards Committee shall administer the ballots.

630
 631 **Section 3.** The Best Representative Award is given annually at Fall Session to the
 632 Representative who shows himself to be an accomplished speaker and conscientious
 633 statesman. The Representatives shall nominate candidates for the Best
 634 Representative Award and then each Representative shall cast one vote for one of the
 635 nominees. The Speaker of the House shall cast a vote in case of a tie. The Election
 636 and Awards Committee shall administer the ballots.

637
 638 **Section 4.** The Best Legislation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Author whose
 639 legislation, in the opinion of Election and Awards Committee, best manifests
 640 thorough research, topicality, and excellent use of language. The committee is not
 641 limited to bills presented to the House or Senate.

642
 643 **Section 5.** The Best Delegation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the small, medium,
 644 and large delegations that, in the opinion of the Election and Awards Committee, best
 645 exemplified cohesion and activity.

646 A. A small delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current
 647 population of 2,000 students or less.

648
 649 B. A medium delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current
 650 population between 2,001 and 8,000 students.

651
 652 C. A large delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current
 653 population over 8,001 students.

654

655 **Section 6.** The Chad M. Beatty Award is given annually at Fall Session to the outstanding non-
656 officer senior as decided by the Elections and Awards Committee.

657
658 **Section 7.** The Blake Alexander Campbell Memorial Award is given annually at Fall Session to
659 a freshman Representative or Senator who, in the opinion of the Election and Awards
660 Committee and the Executive Council, shows himself to be a positive representative
661 for the future of SCSL through statesmanship, honor, courage, and integrity.

662
663 **Section 8.** The Best Written Brief award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s)
664 who, in the opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows exceptional legal
665 writing skills.

666
667 **Section 9.** The Best Oral Argument award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s)
668 who, in the opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows excellent use of
669 language skills, communication skills, and the art of advocacy.

670

671

Article XIII

672

Parliamentary Authority

673

674 **Section 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order; Newly Revised*
675 shall govern the South Carolina Student Legislature in all cases to which they are
676 applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any
677 special rules this organization may adopt.

678

679 **Section 2.** The parliamentary authority prescribed in their respective rules shall govern the
680 Senate and House.

681

682

Article XIV

683

Equality

684

685 **Section 1.** Any occurrence of pronouns throughout this document shall not be deemed gender
686 specific.

687

688 **Section 2.** No delegate shall be discriminated against in any way on the basis of gender, race,
689 religion, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, or age.

690

691

Article XV

692

Amendment of the Constitution

693

694 **Section 1.** Any member may present amendments to the constitution at any meeting at either
695 Fall or Spring Sessions.

696

697

698 **Section 2.** Approved amendments must be ratified by two-thirds of the member delegations of
699 the South Carolina Student Legislature. Upon approval, the Secretary of State shall
700 declare such amendments to be in effect.

701

702

Article XVI

703

Preemption of Constitution and Bylaws

704

705 **Section 1:** Members of South Carolina Student Legislature are bound by the Constitution and
706 Bylaws. The Constitution shall hold precedence over the Bylaws in all matters. The
707 Bylaws shall not preempt or supersede the Constitution.

