

ALERTS

South Carolina Legislative Update - April 28, 2014

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South Carolina General Assembly

The House and Senate were on furlough last week. The only meeting scheduled was a special House panel weighing ethics reform changes wherein nothing advanced and no votes were taken. However, several members introduced amendments and proposed ideas for the legislation and staff is currently preparing those amendments. The Committee is scheduled to meet this Thursday upon adjournment of the House and each member will be given the opportunity then to introduce and propose their amendments for consideration.

In the News

Lawmakers mulling how far government should go to make certain crime records secret

Although Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill two years ago that would have allowed various kinds of criminals to have their criminal histories deleted from the public record, new efforts are underway again in the General Assembly this year to try again. [Read more here.](#)

New SC law deletes high school exit exam mandate

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - South Carolina is replacing its high school exit exam with tests considered more useful to students' future success, with scores that could go on work resumes or college admissions applications. A new law signed by Gov. Nikki Haley deletes South Carolina's 3-decade-old requirement that high school students pass an exit exam to graduate, starting with the Class of 2015. [Read more here.](#)

In South Carolina, leaders reconsider drilling along the coastline

The push to start drilling in the Atlantic Ocean is gaining momentum and dividing people along the grand coast of South Carolina, where some local leaders fear what it could mean for tourism. [Read more here.](#)

Graham agrees to SC Debate

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has agreed to debate his June Republican primary challengers in an event hosted by Educational Television in collaboration with The State newspaper, The Greenville News and other state newspapers, ETV said Thursday. [Read more here.](#)

Veterans rally at SC Statehouse to seek benefits

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Dozens of South Carolina veterans gathered at the Statehouse on Wednesday to press lawmakers to boost benefits for those who served in the military and their families. "We salute you and welcome you here, and hope you can convince our legislators to do more for our veterans," retired Army Col. David Lobb, of the state Military Officers Associated for America, told the gathering at the Statehouse steps.

130 Jobs moving into old Springs building in Fort Mill

An engineering services firm is moving its headquarters into the historic former Springs Industries offices in Fort Mill, bringing with it 130 jobs, state officials announced last week. UC Synergetic, an engineering and technical services company supporting power and communications utilities, is locating its corporate headquarters and engineering operations in York County.

Meeting Schedule

Monday, April 28

9:00 am -- Blatt Room 110 -- Judicial Merit Selection Commission Public Hearing

1:00 pm -- Blatt Room 433 -- Education Oversight Committee

I. Cyclical Review of the Accountability System

II. FY2014-15 Budget Recommendations

III. 2014-15 Communications Plan

IV. P-20 Reading Initiative

Tuesday, April 29

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 207 -- State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee

I. PSC Subcommittee Screening Report

II. Discussion of Report

10:00 am -- Gressette Room 209 -- Joint Transportation Review Committee

I. Public Screening of Individuals for the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission 's 3rd District

11:00 am -- Blatt Room 318 -- Legislative Group (Rep. Shannon Erickson)

11:00 am -- Blatt Room 112 -- Majority Caucus

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11:00 am -- Blatt Room 305 -- Minority Caucus

11:30 am -- Blatt Room 108 -- National Multiple Sclerosis Society Greater Carolina Chapter

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm -- State House Grounds -- Legislative Luncheon - State Farm Insurance Companies

2:30 pm or 1 hours after the House adjourns -- Blatt Room 516 -- Judiciary Committee

I. H. 4180 - Alimony

II. H. 5015 - Child Abuse and Neglect Registry

III. S. 4 - Early Voting Procedures

IV. S. 764 - Vulnerable Adult Guardian Ad Litem Program

V. S. 817 - Commission on National and Community Service

VI. S. 1035 - Medical Cannabis Therapeutic Treatment Research Act

VII. H. 4453 - Campaign Funds

3:00 pm -- Gressette Room 105 -- Finance Committee

I. H. 4701 - General Appropriations

II. H. 4702 - Capital Reserve Fund

3:00 pm -- Gressette Room 308 -- Judiciary Committee

I. S. 861 - Field Sobriety Tests

II. S. 916 - Trespasser Responsibility Act

III. S. 868 - Clerk of Court or Register of Deeds

IV. S. 869 - Dating Violence

V. S. 1029 - Criminal Domestic Violence

VI. H. 4560 - Expungement of Criminal Records

VII. H. 4922 - Veterans

VIII. S. 1136 - Barbecue

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IX. S. 1147 - Protective Proceedings

X. S. 527 - Pregnant Women's Protection Act

XI. H. 4382 - Homeless

XII. H. 3024 - Child Abuse

XIII. H. 3833 - Retail Wine/Beer Permit

XIV. H. 3369 - Workers Compensation

4:30 pm -- Blatt Room 427 -- SC Legislative Black Caucus

Wednesday, April 30

8:00 am -- Blatt Room 305 -- Benedict College

8:00 am - 10:00 am -- Blatt Room 112 -- Legislative Breakfast - Piedmont Natural Gas (Members Only)

8:00 am -- Blatt Room 110 -- South Carolina Educator's Association "Home School Day"

8:30 am -- Blatt Room 410 -- Agriculture Environmental Affairs I Subcommittee on S.1032, S.1198 and H.5052

I. S. 1032 - Coastal Zone Critical Areas

II. S. 1198 - Water Pollution Control Permits

III. H. 5052 - Coastal Zone Critical Areas

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 308 -- Review and Oversight Commission on the South Carolina Ports Authority

I. Reappointment Consideration of Mr. David J. Posek, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Ports Authority

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 407 -- Medical Affairs Subcommittee on Regulation No. 4389 and on H.3098, H.3567 and H.4223

I. H. 3098 - Long Term Care Facility

II. H. 3567 - Mental Health

III. H. 4223 - Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

10:00 am -- Gressette Room 307 -- Banking and Insurance Subcommittee on S.422, H.3134, H.4911 and H.4916

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I. H. 3134 - Electronic Satisfaction of a Mortgage

II. H. 4911 - Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act

III. H. 4916 - Notice Requirements of an Insurer

IV. S. 422 - Insurance Coverage Requirement for Breast Ultrasound Screening

10:00 am -- Gressette Room 207 -- Education Committee

I. H.3428 - First Steps to School Readiness Initiative

II. H.4749 - Early Literacy Assessment

III. H.4871 - Charter Schools

IV. S.910 - Home School Students

10:00 am -- Gressette Room 209 -- Fish, Game and Forestry Committee

11:30 am - 2:00 pm -- State House Grounds -- Legislative Luncheon - Certified South Carolina (Palmetto Agriculture & Food Industry Council, South Carolina Department of Agriculture)

1:30 pm -- Gressette Room 111 -- Florence County Senators

Thursday, May 1

8:00 am -- Blatt Room 305 -- Conservation Voters of South Carolina

8:00 am - 10:00 am -- Blatt Room 112 -- Legislative Breakfast - South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (Members Only)

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 207 -- Consumer Affairs Screening

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 307 -- Education K-12 Subcommittee

I. H. 3365 - Mental Health Screening

9:00 am -- Gressette Room 209 -- Judiciary Subcommittee on S.1121 and H.4371

I. S. 1121 - Unlawful Trade Practices

II. H. 4371 - Patents

9:30 am -- Gressette Room 308 -- Medical Affairs Committee on H.3098, H.3567 and H.4223

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I. H. 3098 - Long Term Care Facility

II. H. 3567 - Mental Health

III H. 4223 - Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

10:00 am -- Gressette Room 207 -- Judiciary Subcommittee on S.773 and S.788

I. S.773 - Transparency in Private Attorney Contracts Act

II. S.788 - Noneconomic Damages Limit

Upon adjournment of the House -- Blatt Room 516 -- Judiciary Constitutional Laws Subcommittee (Ethics Reform)

I. H. 3945 - Ethics Reform

11:30 am -- Blatt Room 112 -- Legislative Group (Sen. Ross Turner)

Friday, May 2

No Meetings Scheduled.