



South Carolina House of Representatives

# *Legislative Update*

G. Murrell Smith, Speaker of the House

---

Vol. 41

February 20, 2024

No. 7

(for the week of Feb 13 - 15)

## *LEGISLATIVE UPDATE*

|

|

House Research Staff (803.734.3230)  
Richard Pearce, Esq., Sherry Moore, Andy Allen,  
Don Hottel, Dir. (editing & indexing)

Office of Research and Constituent Services  
1105 Pendleton St., Suite 212, Blatt Bldg., Columbia, S.C. 29201 (803) 734-3230

**Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

**Contents**

House Floor Actions ..... 4

H. 3594 "South Carolina Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2023"  
..... 4

H. 4231 Sunday Retail Liquor Sales Local Referendums..... 5

H. 4957 Name, Image, or Likeness (NIL)..... 5

Committees ..... 6

Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs ..... 6

H. 3963 Hog Management ..... 6

H. 4611 Electronic Dog Control Device..... 6

H. 4820 Statewide Turkey Hunting Season..... 6

H. 4875 Deer Processors ..... 6

H. 4387 Hybrid Bass ..... 6

H. 4386 Robust Redhorse ..... 7

H. 4612 Taking of Feral Hog by Helicopter..... 7

H. 5007 Hook Size Restrictions in the Lower Saluda River ..... 7

Judiciary ..... 8

H. 4927 Executive Office of Health Policy ..... 8

Introductions ..... 9

Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs ..... 9

H. 5121 Nongame Fishing Devices or Gear Permitted in Certain Bodies of Freshwater Rep.  
Ott..... 9

Education and Public Works ..... 9

H. 5105 Credit for Military Education and Experience Rep. Erickson ..... 9

H. 5117 Annual USC-Clemson Football Game Rep. Sessions ..... 9

Judiciary ..... 9

H. 5081 Voter Qualifications Constitutional Amendment Referendum Rep. Pope ..... 9

H. 5092 DHEC Restructuring, Part I Rep. Herbkersman ..... 9

H. 5112 Other House Candidate Assistance by House Members Rep. Guffey ..... 10

H. 5113 Joint Custody Determinations Rep. Elliott..... 10

H. 5119 Sanitation Worker Safety Rep. Schuessler..... 10

**Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

H. 5103 Zoning Districts Regulations Rep. Long ..... 10  
Labor, Commerce, and Industry ..... 10  
S. 408 Suicide Prevention Training for Social Workers, Therapists, and Counselors Sen. Shealy ..... 10  
H. 5080 Benefits and Honors for Emergency Medical Technicians Rep. B. J. Cox ..... 11  
H. 5090 Drive-Through Window Payments of Utility Bills Rep. King ..... 11  
H. 5104 Documentation of Military Training in Professional and Occupational Licensing Rep. Erickson ..... 11  
H. 5114 Prohibited Contact in the Assistance in Collection of Business License Taxes Rep. Herbkersman ..... 11  
H. 5118 “South Carolina Ten-Year Energy Transformation Act” Rep. G. M. Smith ..... 12  
H. 5120 Concurrent Resolution on Federal Legislation for the Deployment of Modern Energy Infrastructure Rep. G. M. Smith ..... 13  
Ways and Means ..... 13  
H. 5091 Tax Exemption for First Responder Income Rep. Leber ..... 13  
H. 5106 Additional In-District Compensation for Members of the General Assembly ..... 13  
H. 5115 Waste Tires Rep. Ott ..... 13  
H. 5116 Sales Tax Exemption for Medical Devices, Products, and Drugs Purchased by Seniors Rep. Beach ..... 13  
H. 5122 Pay Increase for Election Managers and Clerks Rep. Jefferson ..... 13  
Index ..... 14

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **House Floor Actions**

#### **H. 3594 “South Carolina Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2023”**

The House considered Senate amendments to **H. 3594, the “South Carolina Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2023,”** and then amended the bill to delete all Senate amendments attached to it by that body. The Senate nonconcurred in the House amendment, and then, since the House insisted on its version, the House appointed its Conference Committee members.

In its current version, this bill would declare that our citizens have a constitutional right to carry their firearms anywhere in South Carolina except in law enforcement, detention, or correction facilities; courthouses; polling places on election day; in business meetings by, or in the offices of, city, county, public school district, or special purpose district facilities; to school or college events unrelated to firearms; in daycare or pre-school facilities; anywhere prohibited by federal law; religious sanctuaries including churches; healthcare facilities of any type unless permission is granted to a gun carrier to have that firearm there; anyone else’s residence; and any facility clearly marked with a sign complying with state specifications that disallows firearms on those premises. However, visitors to our state parks would be able to have their concealable weapons with them there. Gunowners would still be able to store their firearms anywhere within their motor vehicles.

However, these prohibitions would not apply to anyone with permission of a property owner to carry on those premises, law enforcement officials, military, militia, and reserve officers while on duty; qualified retired law enforcement officers; and anyone listed under state law as having authority to carry pistols anywhere in our state, including justices, judges, solicitors, workers compensation commissioners; and our Attorney General and his assistants. As amended, active county clerks of court, active public defenders, and active assistant public defenders would be added to this list. In its current version, this bill prohibits public defenders and assistant public defenders from carrying a firearm into any local or state detention facility.

Anyone openly carrying their firearm in compliance with this proposed legislation would not give any law enforcement officer or official with arrest powers either a reasonable suspicion or probable cause to be searched, detained, or arrested for doing so.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

Also as amended, first time violators of these prohibitions would face up to 5 years in jail, second time violators would face a minimum of 5 years up to a maximum of 20 years in jail, and third time, or more, violators would face a minimum of 10 years up to a maximum of 30 years in jail. Anyone convicted of a crime punishable by up to one year in jail would be prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition. Violators convicted of crimes punishable with up to one year in jail who are then convicted of carrying a concealable firearm could petition to expunge that conviction after three years elapses.

Firearm owners would have to report the loss or theft of their guns to an appropriate law enforcement agency within 30 days after discovering it. They are encouraged to receive appropriate gun safety training before carrying their firearms. CWP holders would have to report losing their permits within 48 hours, and any pardons that are granted could ban gun possession, transport, or sales if this bill is enacted.

### **H. 4231 Sunday Retail Liquor Sales Local Referendums**

The House has passed and sent to the Senate **H. 4231**, proposed legislation to allow local governments to hold **Sunday liquor sales referendums**. After a successful referendum, local governments could enact local ordinances to allow these sales between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. by a licensed retail dealer, or at a microdistillery. Any applications to the South Carolina Department of Revenue [SCDOR] for these permits would include a nonrefundable \$100 filing fee. However, single-location liquor retailers would not have to pay any application fee. SCDOR would be able to charge a nonrefundable \$3,000 annual fee for these permits. SCDOR would have authority to create terms and conditions applicable to these permits. Anyone violating these provisions could be found guilty of a misdemeanor and face fines and/or incarceration.

### **H. 4957 Name, Image, or Likeness (NIL)**

The House approved and sent to the Senate H. 4957. H. 4957 revises definitions and regulations regarding compensation for intercollegiate athletes' use of their name, image, or likeness (NIL). The bill would allow college sports programs and certain agents to support NIL activities. It protects post-secondary institutions and their employees from liability for actions (e.g., decisions in the athletic arena) affecting athletes' NIL earnings. The bill safeguards in-state schools from punitive actions for engaging in NIL activities that violate association rules (e.g., the NCAA), prohibits institutions from receiving fees from NIL deals, and exempts NIL agreements from public records requests (FOIA) unless the institution is a contracting party. Additionally, it mandates athlete agents to adhere to the Uniform Athlete Agents Act of 2018 and related legislation and removes the 10 percent cap on agency contract fees.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **Committees**

#### **Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs**

The Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs met on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, and reported out several bills.

##### **H. 3963 Hog Management**

Current law outlines that the revenue from the sale of antlered deer tags are to be used to administer the Coyote Management Program. As a result, the committee gave a favorable with amendment report to **H. 3963**, a bill that **adds hog management to the Coyote Management Program** for administration. Every year by January 31<sup>st</sup>, the Department of Natural Resources must provide to the General Assembly, a report on the use of the program funds for the prior year.

##### **H. 4611 Electronic Dog Control Device**

The committee gave a favorable with amendment report to **H. 4611**, a bill that makes it illegal to remove an **electronic dog control device** placed on a dog by its owner. This does not apply when an electronic collar or other electronic tracking device is removed or destroyed for the reasonable administration of medical assistance given to the dog. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and the bill provides for penalties.

##### **H. 4820 Statewide Turkey Hunting Season**

In an effort to address the decline in the turkey population, the committee gave a favorable recommendation to **H. 4820**, a bill creating a **statewide turkey hunting season**. The bill outlines the season for hunting and taking of male wild turkey is April 10 through May 10. The bill also reduces the season bag limit from three to two for statewide residents. The bill sunsets in five years.

##### **H. 4875 Deer Processors**

The committee gave a favorable with amendment report to **H. 4875**, a bill that allows permit **deer processors** to process tagged female (doe) deer donated by a hunter or crop depredation permittee and, in turn recover the fee of processing the deer from a person other than the individual who donated the deer. The bill also increases penalties relating to the sale of deer or deer parts.

##### **H. 4387 Hybrid Bass**

The committee gave a favorable recommendation to **H. 4387**, a bill that includes the reference of **hybrid bass** in the striped bass statutes.

## Legislative Update, 2024

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### H. 4386 Robust Redhorse

The committee gave a favorable report to **H. 4386**, a bill that makes it **unlawful to take, harm, or kill “robust redhorse”** (*Moxostoma robustum*) from public waters. The bill further outlines that if caught the robust redhorse must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken.<sup>1</sup>

### H. 4612 Taking of Feral Hog by Helicopter

**H. 4612**, dealing with the **taking of feral hog by helicopter**, was given a favorable with amendment recommendation by the committee. The bill outlines that the Department of Natural Resources may issue permits for the taking of feral hogs while airborne in a helicopter if it is necessary to protect land, water, wildlife, livestock, domesticated animals, human life, crops, or to meet wildlife management objectives. The bill further states that no feral hog may be taken using a helicopter on any parcel or group of parcels consisting of less than 500 contiguous acres. As a result, the application for permit must provide for the identification of the specific parcel with sufficient detail along with other sufficient details. A permit may not be issued for the purpose of sport hunting.

### H. 5007 Hook Size Restrictions in the Lower Saluda River

The committee gave a favorable recommendation to **H. 5007**, a bill that **restricts permitted hook size in the Lower Saluda River**. The bill outlines that when fishing with live or dead bait fish or bait fish parts in the Lower Saluda River between June 16th and September 30th, hook gap (the distance from hook to point to shank) must not exceed three eighths of an inch ( #6 hook) for all hook types with exceptions. All sizes of inline, nonoffset, nonstainless steel circle hooks are allowed.

---

<sup>1</sup> The robust redhorse is a large, long-lived member of the redhorse sucker family. It is an important part of the native SC aquatic ecosystem.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **Judiciary**

#### **H. 4927 Executive Office of Health Policy**

The committee has issued a favorable report with amendment on H. 4927 "Executive Office of Health Policy." As part of reorganizing the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, a new "Executive Office of Health and Policy" would be created under this proposal. A new Secretary of Health and Policy, who would be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, would develop a "blueprint" State Health Plan-- after working with an advisory committee-- for public health services. Their proposed plan would address the quality of healthcare South Carolinians receive. It would also include an inventory, projections, and standards for health services, facilities, equipment, and workforce.

In addition, and as proposed to be amended in the committee report, the existing Department of Health and Human Services would become the Department of Health Financing; and the state code would be revised to set up a Department of Public Health with a director selected by the Secretary of Health and Policy, who would also approve all regulations propounded by this new Department. A separate Department of Intellectual and Related Disabilities would be established, along with a new Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services entity to replace the existing Department of Mental Health. A separate, new Department of Environmental Services would undertake duties performed by that branch of SC DHEC.

The balance of this bill, as proposed to be amended, completes the revision of current code sections referencing SC DHEC to refer to set out the division of responsibilities between the Department of Health and Policy and the Department of Environmental Services.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **Introductions**

#### **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs**

##### **H. 5121 Nongame Fishing Devices or Gear Permitted in Certain Bodies of Freshwater Rep. Ott**

The bill provides an additional geographic reference for the boundaries of Lake Marion. In addition, the bill also permits hoop nets in the Congaree River.

#### **Education and Public Works**

##### **H. 5105 Credit for Military Education and Experience Rep. Erickson**

H. 5105 would provide that the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education shall adopt a policy applicable to all technical college area commissions that recognizes and awards credentials and college credit for courses and experiences completed in the military as recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE). Joint Service Transcripts or similar service-specific documentation must be reviewed to determine eligibility. This policy would align with American Council on Education (ACE) standards to ensure credits match national practices. It requires clear implementation guidelines and collaboration with the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs to standardize credit review and award processes across colleges.

##### **H. 5117 Annual USC-Clemson Football Game Rep. Sessions**

H. 5117 proposes that the University of South Carolina and Clemson University's Division I varsity football teams engage in an annual match, alternating home venues, as decided by each university's board of trustees.

### **Judiciary**

##### **H. 5081 Voter Qualifications Constitutional Amendment Referendum Rep. Pope**

This joint resolution proposes a South Carolina Constitutional Amendment referendum, relating to voter qualifications. Voters would be asked if the South Carolina state constitution should be amended to allow only United States and South Carolina citizens, who are 18 years old and older and properly registered, to vote.

##### **H. 5092 DHEC Restructuring, Part I Rep. Herbkersman**

This bill proposes conforming all relevant South Carolina Code sections to reflect the ripple effects of Act 90 of 2023, which split the South Carolina's Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) into a **Department of Public Health** and a **Department of Environmental Services**.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **H. 5112 Other House Candidate Assistance by House Members Rep. Guffey**

This bill would prohibit any member of the South Carolina House of Representatives and any individual or business they are associated with, from providing direct or indirect assistance to candidates for the House of Representatives at any compensation level, or for anything else of value. Members of the House of Representatives would have to disclose on their annual Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) the identity of any candidates that they have assisted. Violators of this prohibition would have to pay all compensation they received into the state General Fund.

### **H. 5113 Joint Custody Determinations Rep. Elliott**

Under this proposed legislation, there would be no requirement for the family court to find exceptional circumstances before awarding joint, or divided, custody. In addition, no presumption that joint or divided custody is not in the best interests of the child could be made. Family courts would make custody determinations based solely on what is in the best interest of a child.

### **H. 5119 Sanitation Worker Safety Rep. Schuessler**

This bill would prohibit drivers from passing a stopped garbage truck at a speed of over 15 miles per hour, under specified circumstances. Violators would face fines from \$100 up to \$300. If someone exceeding this speed limit causes serious injury or death to a garbage truck worker, they could be fined from \$300 up to \$1,000 and/or could be imprisoned for up to one year. Further, both public and private garbage trucks would be considered authorized emergency vehicles and may be equipped with a white flashing strobe light.

### **H. 5103 Zoning Districts Regulations Rep. Long**

The bill outlines that a municipality or county may not regulate structures including, but not limited to, yard decorations, sporting equipment, fences, flagpoles, mailboxes, paint colors, and structural facade materials.

## **Labor, Commerce, and Industry**

### **S. 408 Suicide Prevention Training for Social Workers, Therapists, and Counselors Sen. Shealy**

This bill revises licensure provisions for Social Workers, Psycho-educational Specialists, and Professional Counselors, and Marriage and Family Therapists to require at least one hour of continuing education in suicide assessment, treatment, and management treatment as a portion of the total continuing education requirement for license renewal.

## ***Legislative Update, 2024***

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **H. 5080 Benefits and Honors for Emergency Medical Technicians Rep. B. J. Cox**

This bill establishes the conditions under which an individual or group health plan must provide coverage under the same terms and conditions to the spouse or dependent of a first responder covered by such a plan. The legislation adds emergency medical technicians to provisions for lowering flags upon death in line of duty. The legislation makes provisions for a first responder retirement income deduction. The legislation includes surviving spouses of emergency medical technicians in tax exemption provisions. The legislation revises qualifications for waived tuition to include children of certain emergency medical technicians.

### **H. 5090 Drive-Through Window Payments of Utility Bills Rep. King**

This bill requires a utility that offers a drive-through window for customer service to permit a customer to make a payment at its drive-through window.

### **H. 5104 Documentation of Military Training in Professional and Occupational Licensing Rep. Erickson**

This bill includes joint services transcripts among the acceptable evidence for documenting education, training, and experience completed by applicants with military service in licensure with professional and occupational boards and commissions.

### **H. 5114 Prohibited Contact in the Assistance in Collection of Business License Taxes Rep. Herbkersman**

This bill revises provisions relating to assistance in collection of business license tax due, so as to prohibit the third party from contacting the business or another entity that the business contracts with when the business notifies the taxing jurisdiction.

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **H. 5118 “South Carolina Ten-Year Energy Transformation Act” Rep. G. M. Smith**

This bill provides for restructuring initiatives and makes comprehensive provisions as a means of promoting sufficient, reliable, safe, and economical energy crucial to the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of South Carolina and to the state’s economic development and prosperity.

The legislation provides for the establishment of the South Carolina Energy Policy Institute at the University of South Carolina to research and propose solutions to address major challenges in the complex and evolving area of energy generation and storage. Through the legislation, the General Assembly encourages Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc., and the Public Service Authority to prepare to construct, alone or jointly, one or more natural gas fired combined cycle generation facilities of up to 2,000 MW capacity at or near the site of Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.’s, former Canadys coal fired generation station in Colleton County and other sites in the South Carolina Low Country. Through the legislation, The General Assembly encourages Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC to complete evaluations for constructing a second powerhouse using the existing reservoir at Bad Creek Pumped Hydro Station in Oconee County, South Carolina, which will approximately double the size and peak hourly capacity of the facility. Through the legislation, the General Assembly encourages Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC to complete evaluations for constructing hydrogen capable natural gas generation or otherwise to place into service such natural gas generation within the utilities’ balancing areas serving South Carolina.

The legislation provides authority for the Public Service Commission to approve an application for any electric supplier or the South Carolina Public Service Authority to furnish electric service to a transformational economic development project customer. The legislation makes provisions for promoting the development and operation of nuclear facilities, including small modular nuclear reactors. The legislation makes provisions for the prompt siting, permitting, and completion of energy infrastructure projects, energy corridor projects, and brownfield electrical generation projects. The legislation directs the Public Service Commission to be responsive to the clean energy needs of customers and the economic development implications for the state when reviewing and approving voluntary clean energy programs. The PSC is charged with considering updates to these voluntary renewable energy programs on an ongoing basis.

The legislation makes provisions for economic development electric utility rates for prospective commercial or industrial entities locating or expanding their activities in South Carolina. The legislation makes provisions for expanding utility investment in and customer access to cost effective demand-side management programs for enhancing efficient use of existing resources, promoting lower energy costs, mitigating the increasing

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

need for new generation and associated resources, and assisting customers in managing their electricity usage to better control their electric bill. The legislation authorizes the Public Service Authority, in consultation with the South Carolina Department of Commerce, to serve as an anchor subscriber of incremental natural gas and pipeline capacity needed in the future by the State to recruit new transformational projects or to assist in their expansion.

### **H. 5120 Concurrent Resolution on Federal Legislation for the Deployment of Modern Energy Infrastructure Rep. G. M. Smith**

Through this concurrent resolution the members of the South Carolina General Assembly urge federal legislators to work in good faith to enact legislation that reforms federal permitting and environmental review processes to promote economic and environmental stewardship by expediting the deployment of modern energy infrastructure.

### **Ways and Means**

#### **H. 5091 Tax Exemption for First Responder Income Rep. Leber**

This bill revises taxation provisions by providing that South Carolina gross income does not include income earned by a first responder while performing the duties of a first responder.

#### **H. 5106 Additional In-District Compensation for Members of the General Assembly Rep. Williams**

This bill provides that all members of the General Assembly receive an additional in-district compensation of \$1,500 each month.

#### **H. 5115 Waste Tires Rep. Ott**

This bill revises provisions relating to waste tires. It would remove the cap on tipping fees that a county may charge for recycling and disposal of certain waste tires and encourage stakeholder collaboration on market development opportunities regarding end-of-life tire recycling in South Carolina.

#### **H. 5116 Sales Tax Exemption for Medical Devices, Products, and Drugs Purchased by Seniors Rep. Beach**

This bill provides a sales tax exemption for over-the-counter medical devices, products, and drugs purchased by an individual 65 years of age or older.

#### **H. 5122 Pay Increase for Election Managers and Clerks Rep. Jefferson**

This bill increases the amount paid to managers and clerks of general elections by requiring a per diem from the respective county in which they were appointed to serve in an amount equal to that provided in the annual appropriations act.

## Legislative Update, 2024

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

## Index

- A
- awards credentials and college credit for courses and experiences completed in the military (H. 5105), 9
- B
- Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services. See H. 4927
  - business license tax due collection, 11
- C
- child, 10
  - Congaree River hoop nets, 9
  - constitutional amendment
    - South Carolina Constitutional Amendment referendum, 9
  - Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2023, 4
  - custody (H. 5113)
    - joint (divided), 10
- D
- deer processors (H. 4875), 6
  - Department of Environmental Services (H. 5092), 9
  - Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)(H. 5092)
    - restructuring details, 9
    - Department of Health and Human Services. See H. 4927
    - Department of Health Financing. See H. 4927
    - Department of Intellectual and Related Disabilities. See H. 4927
    - Department of Mental Health. See H. 4927
    - Department of Natural Resources, 7
    - Department of Public Health (H. 5092), 9
    - Department of Veterans' Affairs, 9
    - documentation of military training in professional and occupational licensing, 11
    - dogs (H. 4611)
    - electronic control devices, 6
- E
- Executive Office of Health Policy (H. 4927)
    - Secretary of Health and Policy;
      - Department of Health and Human Services becomes Department of Health Financing;
      - Department of Public Health;
      - Department of Intellectual and Related Disabilities;
      - Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services replaces Department of Mental Health;, 8

## Legislative Update, 2024

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

F	H. 5106, 13
federal permitting and environmental	H. 5112, 10
review processes reforms, 13	H. 5113, 10
feral hogs (H. 4612)	H. 5114, 11
taking by helicopter, 7	H. 5115, 13
first responders, 11, 13	H. 5116, 13
	H. 5117, 9
G	H. 5118, 12
General Assembly	H. 5119, 10
additional in-district compensation of	H. 5120, 13
\$1,500 each month, 13	H. 5121, 9
Governor	H. 5122, 13
with the advice and consent of the	hog management (H. 3963), 6
Senate (H. 4927), 8	House candidate assistance by House
	members (H. 5112)
	prohibition on providing direct or
	indirect assistance to candidates for
	the House of Representatives, 10
	hybrid bass (H. 4387), 6
H	
H. 3594, 4	
H. 3963, 6	
H. 4231, 5	
H. 4386, 7	
H. 4387, 6	
H. 4611, 6	
H. 4612, 7	
H. 4820, 6	
H. 4875, 6	
H. 4927, 8	
H. 4957, 5	
H. 5007, 7	
H. 5080, 11	
H. 5081, 9	
H. 5090, 11	
H. 5091, 13	
H. 5092, 9	
H. 5103, 10	
H. 5104, 11	
H. 5105, 9	
	L
	Lake Marion, 9
	liquor sales (H. 4231)
	Sunday liquor sales, 5
	Lower Saluda River
	restricts permitted hook size, 7
	N
	name, image, likeness
	NIL, 5
	name, image, or likeness (NIL)(H. 4957)
	compensation for intercollegiate
	athletes' for the use of their name,
	image, or likeness, 5
	NIL. <i>See</i> H. 4957
	name, image, likeness, 5

## Legislative Update, 2024

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

P  
pay increase for election managers and clerks, 13

R  
Rep. Beach, 13  
Rep. Cox, B. J., 11  
Rep. Elliott, 10  
Rep. Erickson, 9, 11  
Rep. Guffey, 10  
Rep. Herbkersman, 9, 11  
Rep. Jefferson, 13  
Rep. King, 11  
Rep. Leber, 13  
Rep. Long, 10  
Rep. Ott, 9, 13  
Rep. Pope, 9  
Rep. Schuessler, 10  
Rep. Sessions, 9  
Rep. Smith, G. M., 12, 13  
Rep. Williams, 13  
robust redhorse (H. 4386), 7

S  
S. 408, 10  
Secretary of Health and Policy. See H. 4927  
Sen. Shealy, 10  
South Carolina Energy Policy Institute, 12  
structures, prohibition on regulation by a municipality or county, 10  
suicide prevention  
assessment, treatment, and management treatment as a portion

of the total continuing education requirement for license renewal, 10

T  
taxes  
gross income does not include income earned by a first responder, 13  
sales tax exemption for  
over-the-counter medical devices, products, and drugs for an individual 65 years, 13  
Ten-Year Energy Transformation Act (H. 5118)  
promoting natural gas fired combined cycle generation;  
hydrogen capable natural gas generation;  
powerhouse using an existing reservoir;  
nuclear facilities (including small modular nuclear reactors);  
anchor subscriber of  
incremental natural gas and pipeline capacity, 12

Turkey Hunting, 6  
turkey hunting (H. 4820)  
statewide turkey hunting season, 6

U  
USC-Clemson  
annual football game, 9  
utilities, 11

V  
veterans, 9

***Legislative Update, 2024***

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

voter qualifications, 9

## **Legislative Update, 2024**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

### **Note to the reader regarding these Legislative Summaries**

#### **Sources**

The versions of bills and acts that these summaries are based on can be found in the House and Senate Journals of the 125th Session (First and Second Sessions, 2023-2024) and other webpage resources: (<https://www.scstatehouse.gov>).

#### **Citation Style (Chicago Manual of Style) for Students/Researchers**

South Carolina General Assembly, South Carolina House of Representatives, *Legislative Update*, 2024. <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/hupdate.php>

#### **Online Resources**

These summaries are on the South Carolina General Assembly homepage (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>). Go to "Publications" and then "*Legislative Updates*" (<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/publications.php>). This lists all the *Legislative Updates*.

- 1) a Word document showing that week's bill activity.
- 2) a Webpage (the Bill Summary Index) with hypertext links to the bills (by bill number, date, and the different stages in the legislative process).
- 3) the end of session summaries (with index).

#### **Style**

The House Research Office uses the 17th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style (with in-house style modifications, esp. regarding numbers/numerals).

NOTE: In the Word file *within* the Table of Contents, you can go directly to the act or bill summary by pointing the cursor at the line, pressing the Ctrl key + left click the mouse.]

#### **Use**

'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT'. House Rule 4.19

Tuesday, February 20, 2024