

#### **A Message From The President**

Ted Pitts, President & CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce





For many years, the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce has released the annual Legislative Scorecard because our members want to know how their elected officials voted on issues important to the business community. The 2015 Legislative Scorecard represents votes on the South Carolina Chamber's top priorities, our Competitiveness Agenda. We have laid out how your legislators voted on these business issues and also recognize our 2015 Business Advocates.

The business community went into 2015 laser focused on two priorities: workforce development and infrastructure. Our focus was no accident. The South Carolina Chamber's Board of Directors chose these two immediate priorities as part of a larger, long-term strategy for South Carolina.

Workforce: South Carolina has been named the "It" state for economic development. With Governor Nikki Haley, Secretary Bobby Hitt and Team South Carolina continuing to attract new businesses to the state, we have to get workforce development right. Critical needs jobs are accounting for more than half of the workforce, so our state's workforce investment needs to match. We asked legislators to increase their focus on programs to develop a skilled workforce to help existing businesses and those looking to locate in the state.

Infrastructure: The business community clearly spoke with one voice in telling our state leaders we could not wait any longer to provide comprehensive, sustainable and recurring funding to maintain and improve our state's infrastructure. The declining state of South Carolina's roads and bridges has galvanized the energy and attention of business leaders, small and large, from every corner of the state. Investing in maintaining and improving infrastructure, our state's largest asset from a business perspective, is a no brainer. The Chamber put together a plan for legislators to work from that included diversifying funding, addressing agency governance, reducing the size of the system and providing South Carolinians with tax relief.

Removal of the Confederate Flag. No one could have anticipated that 2015 was going to be the year our state's leaders would move the Confederate flag from the State House grounds to the Confederate Relic Room. The grace and forgiveness shown by the Charleston Nine's families brought our leaders back to Columbia for a special legislative session and together for the good of South Carolina.

**The Big Picture**: The 2015 regular legislative session was largely unproductive. Under the leadership of Speaker Jay Lucas, the House passed an infrastructure plan by a two-thirds vote, and sent it to the Senate, which was a major step. The Senate was another story with back-and-forth infighting that precluded the

body from even debating a comprehensive infrastructure bill on the floor. Simply put, the inability of the Senate to make any significant progress on the singular issue of this regular session left the business community with insufficient results upon which to gauge the Senate's performance. As you will note, the 2015 *Scorecard* designates the Senate's work as "in-progress" in an effort to highlight the urgency to address the state's most important issues upon their return in January 2016 for the second half of this two-year session. The Chamber will score the Senate's 2015 votes as part of their 2016 total score.

As president and CEO, my main priority is to advocate on behalf of you, South Carolina's business community. With our unified voices, we will continue to drive the pro-jobs agenda in South Carolina and work to make this state the best place in the world to do business. We are up for the challenge, and I look forward to working with you as we move into the next legislative session.

Jal

## SOUTH CAROLINA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

**WORKING TOGETHER AS THE UNIFIED VOICE OF BUSINESS** 



Our concerns are our members' concerns. Strong business advocacy ensures South Carolina becomes more globally competitive.



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## Improving the Jobs Pipeline

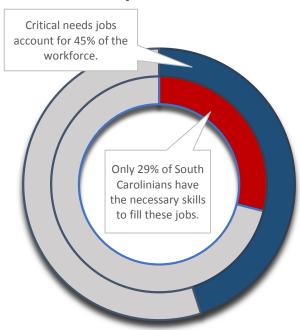
A manufacturing renaissance has led the way for new job announcements in South Carolina. Couple that with the fact that many experienced workers are on the verge of retirement, and a skills gap is evident. Businesses in South Carolina are struggling to find critical needs and middle skilled workers to fill available jobs. Critical needs jobs are those that require more education than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year degree. While the type of worker needed in each business is specific and different, the general need for available and skilled workers is unified throughout the state.

Therefore, the 2015 Competitiveness Agenda largely focused on this sector of job training, calling for the General Assembly to focus on programs to develop a skilled workforce to support existing and new business in South Carolina.

#### What Happened

At the beginning of the legislative session, Governor Nikki Haley introduced a workforce development proposal called Succeed-

#### Why It Matters:



SC which was supported by the business community as a way to provide access to classroom training to create a pipeline of workers for existing South Carolina businesses. The grants-based program would offer underemployed and undereducated adult workers an opportunity to achieve the necessary accreditation to fill critical needs jobs and boost their earning potential.

"This new initiative will not only help those citizens who want to be retrained but also assist smaller companies by helping them get the workers they need to keep moving and keep growing," Haley said.

SucceedSC would have complemented the state's extremely successful readySC workforce training program used to help lure new industry to the state, but SuccedSC went nowhere in the General Assembly. The General Assembly did include in the budget a directive for the South Carolina Technical College System, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce, the South Carolina Department of Education and the South Carolina Department of Commerce to work together to develop, by February 1, 2016, a comprehensive workforce coordination initiative plan.

Some of the education/workforce development highlights included in the FY 2015-16 state budget are:

- Maintained 1.29 EFA weighting for Career and Technology Education (CATE)
- Base student cost (BSC) increased by \$100 to \$2,220 (full funding under EFA would need to be \$2,801)
- Allocated \$2.6 million additional funding for Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA)
- Mandated that funds appropriated for CATE and EEDA programs not be reallocated by school districts
- Provided \$6.5 million to modernize vocational equipment
- readySC received \$4.25 million from the Captial Reserve Fund (CRF)
- Provided \$20 million from CRF to Trident Technical College to fund aeronautical training center
- Provided \$4.9 million for reading coaches and \$1.5 million for expansion of reading camps
- Allocated \$1.5 million in additional dollars to adult education



INDUSTRIES, INC etter Ideas. Better Wood." "The success of our state will shine brightest as we develop and refine a comprehensive workforce plan seeking optimal employment for the roughly 2.2 million South Carolinians producing great products and services every day." - Mikee Johnson, president and CEO, Cox Industries



to find workers to fill critical needs jobs. These are well paying jobs that require some education and training beyond high school but less than a bachelor's degree. Our continued economic success is dependent on solving this issue." - Al Reid, operations leader, Boral Stone Products, LLC, SC

"The No. 1 workforce issue facing business is a

talent pipeline that ensures companies remain

competitive. It is becoming increasingly difficult





## Improving Infrastructure

There are many important issues facing the competitiveness of South Carolina, but there is one that cannot be denied: infrastructure needs. In 2015, finding a comprehensive and sustainable solution to funding the state's infrastructure was the business community's No. 1 priority. Investing in infrastructure is a core function of government. Building for the future will drive economic growth and job creation.

#### **What Happened**

With four plans on the table, each with merit, the South Carolina Senate ultimately failed to compromise on a single plan that invests the necessary dollars in maintaining and improving roads and bridges. The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce even outlined a 5-point funding plan for the state's infrastructure for legislators to work from.

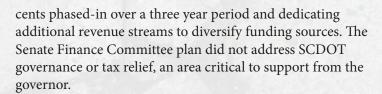
In her *State of the State* address, Governor Nikki Haley released a three-pronged approach to fund infrastructure, increasing the gasoline tax by 10 cents over the next three years, coupled with SCDOT restructuring and a 30 percent income tax reduction (from 7 percent to 5 percent).

Then, led by House Speaker Jay Lucas and Representative Gary Simrill, the House of Representatives passed an infrastructure funding plan with two-thirds majority that reduced the state's 16.75-cents per gallon gasoline tax and reinstated the 6 percent state sales tax in the form of an excise tax on wholesale gasoline, among other items. The House plan enabled the governor to appoint the SCDOT Commission and provided a funding mechanism to return some roads to counties. It also included \$50 million in income tax relief.

In late March, the Senate Finance Committee, led by Chairman Hugh Leatherman and Senator Ray Cleary, passed its own plan to raise approximately \$800 million for roads and bridges by increasing the gas tax by 12



"Our state's poor roads cost companies time and money. We can no longer wait for our state's leaders to address the issue." Jack Sanders, president and CEO, Sonoco



In early May, 20 Republican senators, led by Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler, stood together to release an infrastructure funding proposal with three parts: highway funding, income tax reduction and South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) reform. The Senate





"The business community is united on the need to find sustainable and comprehensive funding sources for our state's roads and bridges. Infrastructure is key to economic development and as we make strides in that arena, our infrastructure must keep up."

- Pamela Lackey, president, AT&T South Carolina





Republican Caucus plan would have ultimately provided \$800 million in additional recurring revenue using diverse means.

Though the session ended without a comprehensive, sustainable bill, the General Assembly did provide \$216 million in one-time dollars towards infrastructure in the supplemental appropriations bill.

The business community is disappointed that the No. 1 issue facing the state – sustainable and recurring funding for infrastructure – was put off again for another year. Critical to economic development, safety, tourism, agribusiness and quality of life, the business community has been urging legislators for many years to work together on a long-term plan.





#### **Why It Matters:**

There are 8,425 bridges in SC.

- 1,602 are Substandard
- 816 are Structurally Deficient
- 786 are Functionally Obsolete
- 384 are Load Restricted

Some businesses have to reroute trucks just to do daily business.







"As the SC Ports Authority continues to grow our cargo volumes and make significant capital investments to remain competitive in the industry, having safe and reliable infrastructure is critically important for moving freight throughout our state and region. We believe the SC General Assembly and Governor Haley are attentive to this issue, and we're confident that a sustainable solution can be reached."

-Jim Newsome, president and CEO, SC Ports Authority



"Our elected officials face many important issues that drive economic development, but we cannot deny that infrastructure is at the top. Funding must be a top priority in 2016."

– John Uprichard, president, FGP International





## **Moving South Carolina Forward**

On the evening of June 17, South Carolina was forever changed with the tragedy that took place in Charleston. Our state will never forget those nine individuals who were taken from us. We will also never forget the response of the victims' families as they showed South Carolinians and the world what true grace, love and forgiveness looks like.

#### **What Happened**

On June 22, Governor Nikki Haley, joined by a large group of bipartisan elected officials, called for the Confederate flag to be removed from the State House grounds. Speaking to South Carolinians, Governor Haley said that the flag is an integral part of our past, but it does not represent the future of South Carolina. The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and many in the business community joined the governor's call for swift action.

In 1999 and 2000, prior to the General Assembly voting to remove the Confederate flag from the State House dome, the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce was a vocal leader in supporting its removal. The business community got involved then for the same reason the Chamber supported the governor's call in June. Simply, it was the right thing to do for our state and its people. It was also the right thing to do for business.

The business community called on the General Assembly to act in an expeditious manner. With South Carolina holding center court on the national and international stages, the Chamber let lawmakers know it expected them to deal with this issue. The General Assembly returned to Columbia July 6 where legislation to remove the flag and relocate it to the Confederate Relic Room passed the Senate with little debate. All eyes then turned to the House where the issue faced a more uphill battle. More than 80 amendments to the bill were proposed. In an emotional end, the House voted to remove the Confederate flag in the early morning hours of July 9.

Flanked by lawmakers and three past governors, Governor Haley signed the legislation to remove the flag into law later that day. She presented each family of the Emanuel Nine with a pen she used to sign the bill and presented a pen each to former Governor David Beasley and Governor Jim Hodges, who were both instrumental in the 2000 removal of the Confederate flag from the State House dome.

2015 Legislative Scorec

The next day, at 10 a.m., dignitaries and thousands of South Carolinians gathered at the State House to witness the historic moment of the flag and its pole being taken down and moved to a place of honor in the Confederate Relic Room. The business community thanks our state's leaders for removing the Confederate flag from the State House grounds thus moving our state forward.





### The following legislators voted to remove the Confederate flag from the State House grounds to its current home in the Confederate Relic Room.

#### **Representatives:**

Terry Alexander Rita Allison Carl Anderson Mike Anthony Todd Atwater Jimmy Bales Nathan Ballentine **Justin Bamberg** Bruce Bannister Beth Bernstein Kenny Bingham Bill Bowers Jeff Bradley Doug Brannon Grady Brown Robert Brown Gary Clary Alan Clemmons Bill Clyburn Gilda Cobb-Hunter Derham Cole **Neal Collins** 

Heather Ammons Crawford

Bill Crosby Joseph Daning Chandra Dillard MaryGail Douglas Gregory Duckworth Shannon Erickson Rave Felder

Kirkman Finlay Mike Forrester

Laurie Slade Funderburk

Craig Gagnon Mike Gambrell Wayne George Wendell Gilliard Stephen Goldfinch Jerry Govan Dan Hamilton Chris Hart Jackie Hayes Phyllis Henderson

Donna Hicks Kenneth Hodges

Bill Herbkersman

Pat Henegan

Jenny Horne Lonnie Hosey Leon Howard Chip Huggins Joseph Jefferson Jay Jordan

John Richard King Roger Kirby Patsy Knight Chip Limehouse Phillip Lowe Jay Lucas David Mack Peter McCoy Joe McEachern Cezar McKnight Mia McLeod Walt McLeod James Merrill Harold Mitchell Chris Murphy Joe Neal

Weston Newton Ralph Norman

Mandy Powers Norrell Russell Ott Anne Parks

Tommy Pope Rick Quinn Robert Ridgeway Shannon Riley Samuel Rivers

Leola Robinson-Simpson

Todd Rutherford Murrell Smith Garry Smith James Smith Mike Sottile Leon Stavrinakis Eddie Tallon Mary Tinkler David Weeks Don Wells Seth Whipper Robert Williams Mark Willis

#### **Senators:**

Thomas Alexander Karl Allen Sean Bennett Kevin Bryant Paul Campbell Chip Campsen Creighton Coleman John Courson Ronnie Cromer Tom Davis Michael Fair Larry Grooms Wes Haves Greg Hembree **Bradley Hutto** Darrell Jackson Kevin Johnson Marlon Kimpson Hugh Leatherman Joel Lourie Gerald Malloy Larry Martin Shane Martin John Matthews Thomas McElveen Floyd Nicholson Billy O'Dell Luke Rankin Glenn Reese Ronnie Sabb John Scott Nikki Setzler Katrina Shealy Vincent Sheheen Paul Thurmond Ross Turner Kent Williams Tom Young







"Today, as the Senate did before them, the House of Representatives has served the State of South Carolina and her people with great dignity. I'm grateful for their service and their compassion. It is a new day in South Carolina, a day we can all be proud of, a day that truly brings us all together as we continue to heal, as one people and one state."

Richie Yow

- Governor Nikki Haley

## 2015 SCORECARD

#### **VOTE KEY:**

✓ Business
 Positive Vote✗ Business
 Negative Vote

**NV** Not Voting

**NP** Not Present

#### **Senator** H.3579 H.4230 H.4266 H.3266 Thomas Alexander Karl Allen √ Sean Bennett X Lee Bright $\sqrt{}$ X X Kevin Bryant X NP X Paul Campbell Chip Campsen X $\sqrt{}$ √ Ray Cleary NP Creighton Coleman Thomas Corbin X John Courson X IN PROGRESS Ronnie Cromer Tom Davis X √ NV Michael Fair X √ Chauncey Gregory NP Larry Grooms X Wes Hayes √ Greg Hembree NV X **Bradley Hutto** $\sqrt{}$ Darrell Jackson √ Kevin Johnson Marlon E. Kimpson NV X V Hugh Leatherman Joel Lourie NV Gerald Malloy √ √ Larry Martin X Shane Martin X NP Shane Massey X John Matthews Thomas McElveen Floyd Nicholson √ $\sqrt{}$ √ William O'Dell Harvey Peeler X Clementa Pinckney √ NV Luke Rankin NV

## SC SENATE

Senator	H.3579	H.4230	H.4266	H.3266	
Glenn Reese	√	√	NV	√	
Ronnie Sabb	√	√	√	√	S
John Scott	√	√	√	√	GRESS
Nikki Setzler	√	√	√	√	R
Katrina Shealy	Х	√	√	√	Ü
Vincent Sheheen	√	√	√	NV	
Paul Thurmond	Х	√	√	√	PRO
Ross Turner	Х	√	√	√	4
Danny Verdin	Х	√	NV	√	
Kent Williams	√	√	√	√	Z
Tom Young	Х	√	√	√	

Simply put, the inability of the Senate to make any significant progress on the singular issue of this regular session left the business community with insufficient results upon which to gauge the Senate's performance. The 2015 Scorecard designates the Senate's work as "in-progress" in an effort to highlight the urgency to address the state's most important issues upon their return in January 2016 for the second half of this two-year session.

-Ted Pitts, President & CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

### **Senate Votes**

#### H.3579: Vote to set Infrastructure Funding for

**Special Order.** By a vote of 26-19, the Senate failed to set the comprehensive infrastructure bill for priority debate status. This bill was later set for Special Order by a voice vote, but the session ran out before the bill was debated. *SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #223, 4/30/2015* 

#### H.4230: Supplemental Funds for Infrastructure.

The SC Chamber urged the General Assembly to dedicate at least half of all supplemental funds made available towards infrastructure improvements. The Senate voted unanimously to support the conference report, which appropriated \$335 million in mostly one-time dollars to the reconstruction and repair of bridges and state-owned secondary roads, as well as bonding for bridge replacement and expansion of existing interstates.

SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #560, 6/23/15

#### H.4266: SCDOT Secretary Sunset Provision.

The SCDOT Reform Act 114 of 2007 created the gubernatorial authority to appoint the SCDOT Secretary but also provided for a sunset of the authority on June 30, 2015. An amendment to suspend the sunset provision for FY 2015-16 was included in this continuing budgetary resolution by a vote of 39-2, preventing control of SCDOT from reverting back to the legislature.

SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #492, 6/16/15

#### H.3266: Trespasser Responsibility Act.

By a vote of 41-1, the Senate passed a tort reform measure to protect landowners from frivolous lawsuits arising from situations where trespassers suffer injuries on their property. Enacts statutory protections similar to those already in place in 20 other states, including North Carolina and Georgia. Signed into law by Governor Haley on 6/8/15. SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #453, 6/2/15



## 2015 SCORECARD

#### VOTE KEY:

✓ BusinessPositive VoteX Business

Negative Vote

**NV** Not Voting

**NP** Not Present

- Not in Office

★ Denotes Recipient of Business Advocate Award

Legislators with a weighted score of 90% or greater are South Carolina's 2015 Business Advocates.



House Speaker Jay Lucas

Business Advocate



Rep. Rita Allison Chair, Edu. & Public Works Business Advocate 100% Perfect Score



Rep. Jimmy Bales Chm., Invitations Business Advocate

<b>Legislative Score</b>	50%	10%	10%	5%	5%	10%	10%
Representative	H.3579	H.4230	H.4266	H.3701	H.3430	H.3266	Н.3396
Terry Alexander	√	NV	√	√	√	NV	X
Rita Allison ★	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Carl Anderson ★	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Mike Anthony	√	√	NP	Х	Х	√	√
Todd Atwater	Х	√	√	√	√	√	√
Jimmy Bales ★	√	√	√	NV	√	√	√
Nathan Ballentine	√	NP	NP	√	√	√	NP
Justin Bamberg	√	NV	NV	√	√	Х	√
Bruce Bannister ★	√	√	√	√	NV	√	√
Eric Bedingfield	Х	√	√	√	Х	√	√
Beth Bernstein ★	√	√	√	√	√	√	Х
Kenny Bingham	NV	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Bill Bowers ★	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Jeff Bradley ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Doug Brannon ★	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Grady Brown	√	√	Х	NP	NV	√	NV
Robert Brown	√	√	√	NV	√	√	Х
Mike Burns	Х	√	√	√	Х	√	√
Bill Chumley	Х	√	√	√	Х	√	√
Gary Clary	√	√	√	Х	√	√	Х
Alan Clemmons	√	√	√	Х	√	√	NP
Bill Clyburn	√	√	√	Х	√	√	NV
Gilda Cobb-Hunter	√	√	Х	√	NP	NV	Х
Derham Cole, Jr. ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Neal Collins	Х	NV	√	Х	√	√	Х
Chris Corley	√	√	√	Х	√	√	NV
Heather Ammons Crawford	√	√	√	Х	√	√	NP
Bill Crosby	NP	√	√	X	√	√	√
Joe Daning ★	√	√	√	NV	√	√	√
Greg Delleney ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Chandra Dillard	√	NP	√	Х	√	NV	Х
MaryGail Douglas ★	√	√	Х	√	√	√	√
Greg Duckworth ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Shannon Erickson	NP	√	NP	NV	NV	√	√
Raye Felder ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Kirkman Finlay	√	NV	√	Х	√	√	√
Mike Forrester ★	√	√	√	NV	√	√	√



Rep. Greg Delleney Chm., Judiciary Business Advocate



Rep. David Hiott Chm., Ag. & Nat. Resources Business Advocate



Rep. Weston Newton Chm., Legislative Oversight Business Advocate



Rep. Bill Sandifer Chm., Labor, Commerce & Industry Business Advocate



Rep. Brian White Chm., Ways & Means
Business Advocate

## SC HOUSE



Rep. Carl Anderson
Business Advocate



Rep. Bruce Bannister Majority Leader Business Advocate



Rep. Beth Bernstein

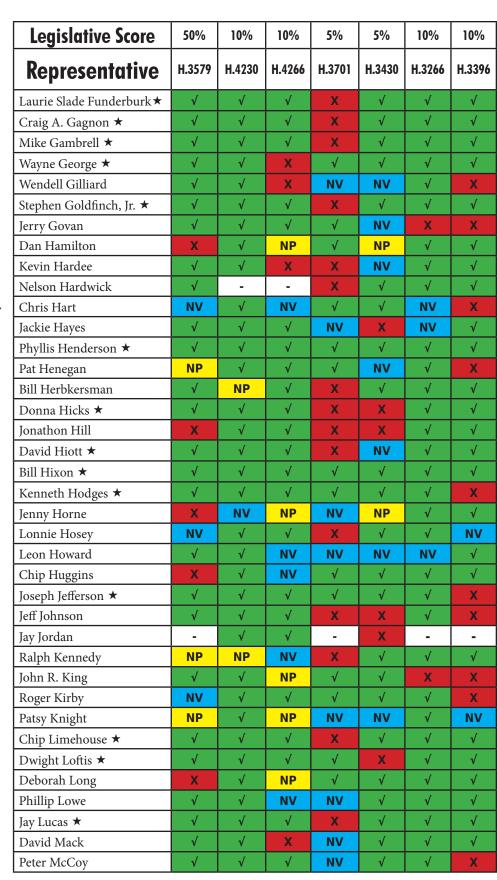
Business Advocate



**Rep. Bill Bowers** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Jeff Bradley** *Business Advocate* 





**Rep. Doug Brannon** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Derham Cole
Business Advocate



**Rep. Joe Daning** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. MaryGail Douglas** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Greg Duckworth** *Business Advocate* 



## 2015 SCORECARD



**Rep. Raye Felder** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Mike Forrester** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Laurie Funderburk** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Craig Gagnon** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Mike Gambrell** *Business Advocate* 

Legislative Score	50%	10%	10%	5%	5%	10%	10%
Representative	H.3579	H.4230	H.4266	H.3701	H.3430	H.3266	H.3396
Joe McEachern	√	√	X	NV	√	√	√
Cezar McKnight	√	√	NV	√	√	Х	√
Mia McLeod	√	√	√	√	√	NV	Х
Walt McLeod ★	√	√	√	√	Х	√	√
James Merrill	Х	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Harold Mitchell	NV	√	NV	Х	NV	NV	Х
Dennis Moss	√	√	NV	Х	Х	√	√
Steve Moss	√	√	NP	Х	Х	√	√
Chris Murphy	NP	√	NP	NV	√	√	√
Wendy Nanney	NP	√	√	√	NP	√	√
Joe Neal	NV	√	Х	√	NV	NV	NV
Weston Newton ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Ralph Norman ★	√	√	√	√	Х	√	√
Mandy Powers Norrell	√	√	√	Х	√	√	Х
Russell Ott ★	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Anne Parks	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	NV
Michael Pitts	√	NV	NV	Х	Х	√	NV
Tommy Pope	√	NP	NP	Х	√	√	√
Joshua A. Putnam	Х	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Rick Quinn	Х	NV	√	√	NV	NV	NV
Robert Ridgeway ★	√	√	Х	√	√	√	√
Shannon Riley ★	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Samuel Rivers ★	√	√	√	√	Х	√	√
Leola Robinson- Simpson	√	NV	√	√	√	Х	Х
Todd Rutherford	NV	√	√	√	√	Х	Х
Mike Ryhal	√	√	√	Х	NV	NP	√
Bill Sandifer ★	√	√	√	X	√	√	√
Gary Simrill ★	√	√	√	X	√	√	√
Murrell Smith ★	√	√	√	Х	NP	√	√
Garry Smith	Х	√	√	√	√	√	√
James Smith	√	√	NP	√	√	√	Х
Mike Sottile ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Edward Southard	Х	√	NV	NP	Х	√	NV
Kit Spires ★	√	√	√	NP	√	√	√
Leon Stavrinakis	Х	√	√	Х	NP	√	NV
Tommy Stringer	Х	√	√	√	Х	√	√



**Rep. Wayne George** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Stephen Goldfinch
Business Advocate



**Rep. Phyllis Henderson** *Business Advocate*100% Perfect Score



**Rep. Donna Hicks** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Bill Hixon** *Business Advocate*100% Perfect Score

## SC HOUSE



**Rep. Kenneth Hodges** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Joseph Jefferson** *Business Advocate* 

Legislative Score	50%	10%	10%	5%	5%	10%	10%
Representative	H.3579	H.4230	H.4266	H.3701	H.3430	H.3266	H.3396
Eddie Tallon ★	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bill Taylor	Х	NV	√	√	√	√	√
Anne Thayer	X	√	√	Х	Х	√	√
Mary Tinkler	√	√	√	Х	NV	√	Х
Mac Toole	NV	√	√	√	NP	√	√
David Weeks ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Don Wells	√	NV	√	Х	√	√	√
Seth Whipper	NV	√	√	NV	√	√	NV
Brian White ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Bill Whitmire ★	√	√	√	Х	√	√	√
Robert Williams ★	√	√	√	NP	Х	√	√
Mark Willis	Х	√	NP	√	Х	√	√
Richie Yow ★	√	√	√	Х	Х	√	√



Rep. Edward Tallon

Business Advocate

100% Perfect Score



**Rep. David Weeks** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Chip Limehouse
Business Advocate



**Rep. Ralph Norman** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Shannon Riley
Business Advocate



**Rep. Murrell Smith** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Bill Whitmire** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Dwight Loftis** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Russell Ott Business Advocate 100% Perfect Score



**Rep. Samuel Rivers** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Mike Sottile** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Robert Williams
Business Advocate



**Rep. Walton McLeod** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Robert Ridgeway

Business Advocate



**Rep. Gary Simirill** *Business Advocate* 



**Rep. Kit Spires** *Business Advocate* 



Rep. Richard Yow

Business Advocate



### **House Votes**

H.3579: Infrastructure Funding and SCDOT

Reform (Weighted at 50%) By a vote of 87-20, the House gave second reading to H.3579, legislation that would restructure both SCDOT and state Infrastructure Bank governance, increase the recurring revenue stream by approximately \$400 million that goes to maintain and improve South Carolina's roads and bridges and provide tax relief to South Carolina taxpayers through an adjustment to state income tax brackets.

*SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #453, 4/15/15* 

H.4230: Supplemental Funds for Infrastructure

(Weighted at 10%) The SC Chamber called for the General Assembly to dedicate at least half of all supplemental funds made available towards infrastructure improvements. The House voted unanimously to support the conference report, which appropriated \$335 million in mostly one-time dollars to the reconstruction and repair of bridges and state-owned secondary roads, as well as bonding for bridge replacement and expansion of existing interstates.

*SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #790, 6/23/15* 

H.4266: SCDOT Secretary Sunset Provision

(Weighted at 10%) The SCDOT Reform Act 114 of 2007 created the gubernatorial authority to appoint the SCDOT Secretary but also provided for a sunset of the authority on June 30, 2015. An amendment to suspend the sunset provision for FY 2015-16 was included in this continuing budgetary resolution by a vote of 89-10, preventing SCDOT control to revert back to legislative control. SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #782, 6/17/15

**H.3701: Amendment 179: SucceedSC Budget Proviso (Weighted at 5%)** In an effort to meet the middle skills job gap, the SucceedSC program was proposed by the Governor. It would institute a grants-

based system to afford under educated and under employed workers the opportunity to gain necessary accreditation as well as create a direct pipeline to match these workers with unfilled, skilled positions. The proviso to implement and initiate funding for SucceedSC failed by a vote of 45-58.

*SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #346, 3/11/15* 

**H.3430:** Unsafe Used Tires (*Weighted at 5%*) By a vote of 56-48, the House approved legislation to codify basic standards for determining an unsafe used tire, thereby limiting the number of substandard tires moving along South Carolina's highways and creating a safer driving environment.

SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #555, 4/29/15

H.3266: Trespasser Responsibility Act

(Weighted at 10%) By a vote of 106-6, the House passed a tort reform measure to protect landowners from frivolous lawsuits arising from situations where trespassers suffer injuries on their property. The bill enacts statutory protections similar to those already in place in 20 other states, including North Carolina and Georgia and was signed into law by Governor Haley on 6/8/15. SC Chamber Vote: Aye, Vote #30, 2/4/15

H.3396: Longshore and Harbor Workers'

Compensation Act (Weighted at 10%) The House approved legislation to prohibit port workers covered by the federal Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act from filing additional claims under the SC Workers' Compensation System, resulting in increased costs to employers. Exceptions were included to protect employees in cases where no coverage was provided under the federal system. The House vote of 84-20 sent the bill to the Senate, where it stalled in Judiciary Committee.

SC Chamber Vote: Aye; Vote #428, 4/14/15



# Remembering a South Carolina Statesman: **Senator Clementa C. Pinckney** 1973-2015

South Carolina's business community honors the life of Senator Clementa Pinckney. He was a true statesman and served as a calming presence in South Carolina's political process.

A Beaufort native, Senator Pinckney served Senate District 45, representing Allendale, Beaufort, Charleston, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties. Senator Pinckney was first elected to the South Carolina General Assembly in 1996 at the age of 23, becoming at the time the youngest African-American elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives, where he served for two terms before being elected to the state Senate. A *Washington Post* columnist called Pinckney a "political spirit lifter for surprisingly not becoming cynical about politics."

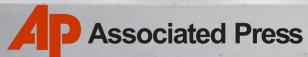
Senator Pinckney will be missed, but never forgotten. His life and legacy should serve as an example for us all.





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