RILEY POPE & LANEY LAW

New HOUSE Intros of Interest
Week of February 17 – 19, 2026

HB5201 **SAFE SCHOOLS ACT OF 2026** (PEDALINO F) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "SAFE SCHOOLS ACT OF 2026" BY ADDING ARTICLE 6 TO CHAPTER 63, TITLE 59, SO AS TO ESTABLISH A MULTIJURISDICTIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE, TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO DEVELOP MULTIHAZARD EMERGENCY OPERATION PLANS, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTIFIED SCHOOL SAFETY ASSESSMENTS AND REQUIRED LIVE DRILLS, AND TO PROVIDE OVERSIGHT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BY SLED, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

Current Status: 2/18/2026 - Referred to Committee House Education and Public Works

All Bill Status: 2/18/2026 - Introduced and read first time

State Bill Page: HB5201

HB5205 **COLLEGE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS** (MCGINNIS T) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 4 TO CHAPTER 101, TITLE 59 SO AS TO REQUIRE EACH PUBLIC COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE IN THIS STATE TO IMPLEMENT A SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ALL NEW STUDENTS, TO PROVIDE EXCLUSIONS FROM THE PROGRAMS, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAMS, TO REQUIRE EACH INSTITUTION TO COMPILE AND ANNUALLY REPORT CERTAIN CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND TO PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS.

Current Status: 2/19/2026 - Committee report House Education and Public Works : Favorable

All Bill Status: 2/19/2026 - House Committee recommends passage House Education and Public Works
2/19/2026 - House Education and Public Works, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing); **Time & Location:** 9:30 AM, Blatt 433
2/18/2026 - Scrivener's error corrected
2/18/2026 - Referred to Committee House Education and Public Works
2/18/2026 - Introduced and read first time

State Bill Page: HB5205

HB5206 **HEALTH INSURANCE** (GUFFEY B) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 25 TO CHAPTER 71, TITLE 38 SO AS TO PROVIDE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MUST BE CONSIDERED WHEN A HEALTH INSURER USES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MAKE DETERMINATIONS RELATING TO PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS, TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DISCLOSURES TO ENROLLEES, AND TO PROVIDE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS.

Current Status: 2/18/2026 - Referred to Committee House Labor, Commerce and Industry

All Bill Status: 2/18/2026 - Introduced and read first time

State Bill Page: HB5206

HB5208 **SALES TAX EXEMPTION** (NEWTON B) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 12-36-2120, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM SALES TAX, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN UNPREPARED FOODS, THAT MAY BE PURCHASED WITH FOOD COUPONS WHICH ARE EXEMPT FROM TAXES, ARE NOT LIMITED TO CERTAIN FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

Current Status: 2/18/2026 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means

All Bill Status: 2/18/2026 - Introduced and read first time

State Bill Page: HB5208

HB5210 **INTERSTATE MASSAGE COMPACT** (COX B) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS SO AS TO ENACT THE "INTERSTATE MASSAGE COMPACT ACT" BY ADDING SECTION 40-30-510 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ENTERS INTO THE INTERSTATE MASSAGE COMPACT WITH ANY AND ALL STATES LEGALLY JOINING THE COMPACT, AND TO ADOPT THE TERMS OF THE COMPACT IN ITS SUBSTANTIAL FORM; AND TO DESIGNATE THE EXISTING PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 30, TITLE 40, AS "GENERAL PROVISIONS."

Current Status: 2/18/2026 - Referred to Committee House Labor, Commerce and Industry
All Bill Status: 2/18/2026 - Introduced and read first time
State Bill Page: HB5210

HB5215 **DATA CENTER UTILITY COSTS** (JONES W) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS SO AS TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA RATEPAYER PROTECTION AND LARGE LOAD CUSTOMER INFRASTRUCTURE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT" BY ADDING CHAPTER 44 TO TITLE 58 SO AS TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS, PROHIBIT INCREMENTAL COSTS RESULTING FROM LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS TO BE RECOVERED FROM CUSTOMERS IN ANOTHER CUSTOMER CLASS; TO ESTABLISH CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS AND ELECTRICAL UTILITIES; TO ESTABLISH REVIEW STANDARDS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND TO REQUIRE ANNUAL REPORTS FROM LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS; BY ADDING SECTION 13-1-80 SO AS TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS REGARDING INCENTIVES THAT MAY BE OFFERED TO POTENTIAL LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS; BY ADDING SECTION 6-29-550 SO AS TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS REGARDING PUBLIC NOTICE, PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS CONCERNING PLANNING AND ZONING PRIOR TO THE RECEIPT OF CERTAIN PERMITS OR INCENTIVES; AND BY ADDING SECTION 49-1-100 SO AS TO REQUIRE POTENTIAL LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS TO PROVIDE PLANS REGARDING WATER RESOURCES AND ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO VERIFY WATER USAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN ADHERENCE IN THE EVENT OF A DROUGHT.

Current Status: 2/19/2026 - Referred to Committee House Labor, Commerce and Industry
All Bill Status: 2/19/2026 - Introduced and read first time
State Bill Page: HB5215

HB5216 **ENERGY** (CHAPMAN D) A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 6-10-30, RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF THE 2009 EDITION OF THE ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, SO AS TO LIMIT ITS APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCTION FALLING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 6-10-40, RELATING TO APPEAL BY LOCAL JURISDICTION FOR VARIANCE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL, SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT STATEWIDE MODIFICATIONS NOT FALLING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE MAY BE MADE IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER BUILDING CODES.

Current Status: 2/19/2026 - Referred to Committee House Labor, Commerce and Industry
All Bill Status: 2/19/2026 - Introduced and read first time
State Bill Page: HB5216