**South Carolina Senate Majority**

**Weekly Legislative Summary**



**WEEK IN REVIEW: MARCH 21 - MARCH 25, 2022**

***Passed Third Reading, Sent to the House***

**S.295** – Denial of License Based on Criminal Conviction: A bill to provide that professional boards and commissions may not solely deny a license application based upon an applicant’s prior criminal conviction unless the conviction directly to the duties and responsibilities for the occupation or license being sought. Boards and commissions shall identify crimes that would lead to automatic disqualification and obtain a determination from the appropriate board of commission whether the criminal conviction is a disqualifying conviction.

**S.659** – Reentry of Convicted Sexually Violent Offenders: A bill to make statutory changes to the release conditions, mental health evaluations and procedures for hearings of sexually violent predators. The bill would incorporate an inmate’s sexually violent predator status into the supervised re-entry review process and required sexually violent predator cases to take priority scheduling in order to have the cases heard in a timely manner. The Commission of Indigent Defense (CID) is responsible for establishing and monitoring programs and services for legal representation to indigent defendants charged with criminal offenses in the courts. Along with Circuit Solicitors, the Attorney General is responsible for the prosecution of all criminal matters in the judicial system.

**S.888** – Voluntary Contributions: A bill to provide a voluntary contribution made during the application for a contractor’s license to be applied to accredited public institutions of higher learning offering courses in building science or civil engineering. The department shall retain five percent of the amount to be distributed for administrative expenses associated with the collection and distribution of funds.

**S.1106** – General Reserve Fund Increase: A joint resolution to propose an Amendment to the Constitution of the State to provide for an increase of the State General Reserve Fund from five percent of the general fund revenue of the last fiscal year to seven percent. The amounts made into the Capital Reserve fund is increased from an amount equal to two percent of the general revenue from the latest fiscal year to three percent.

**S.1117** – Grain Producers Guaranty Fund: A bill to expand the South Carolina Grain Producers Guaranty Fund to include producers of cotton. An assessment of fifty cents per bale of cotton shall be collected at the time and place of ginning. The bill would increase the fund ceiling from $4 million to $25 million for the point in which the assessment ceases. The bill establishes the SC Agricultural Commodities Advisory Commission and makes other provisions.

*The information contained herein is prepared by the staff of the South Carolina Senate and is not the expression of the Senate. It is strictly for the internal use and benefit of members of the Senate and is not to be construed by a court of law as an expression of legislative intent. This is a compilation derived from committee staff summaries and meetings.*