

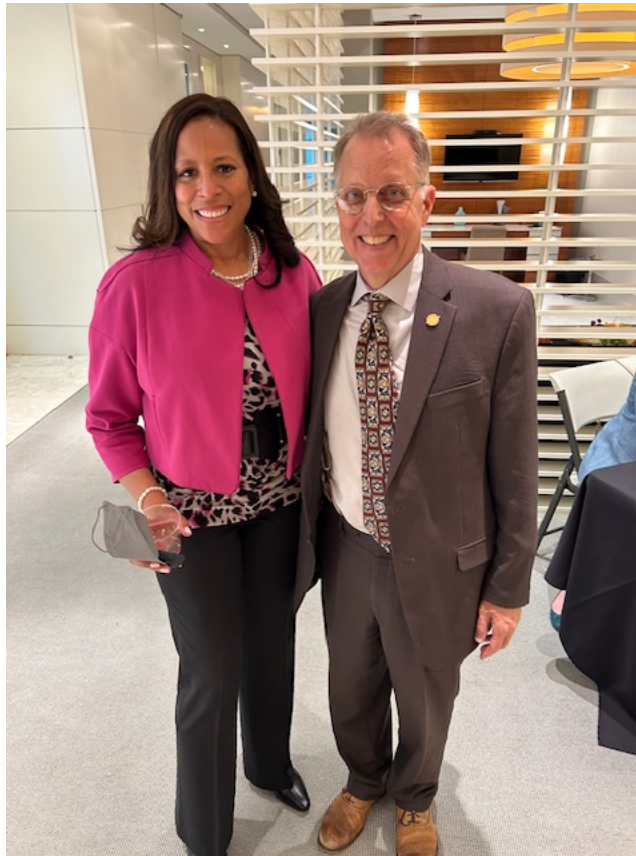
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***Week 13: April 2-4, 2024***

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*Senator Mia McLeod (I-Richland) and Senator Mike Fanning (D-Fairfield)*



## House and Senate Recesses

The House was on furlough and did not gavel into session this week. They will resume next Tuesday. The Senate will be on recess next week and will not return until Tuesday, April 16.

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## Education Budget Provisos

On Wednesday, the Senate Finance K-12 Education Subcommittee met to discuss some of the provisos in the 2024-2025 budget, [H.5100](#), all of which were adopted or carried over.

You can view a transcript of that meeting [here](#). You can view all the education budget provisos [here](#).

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## Voucher Update

The South Carolina Supreme Court heard oral arguments in our lawsuit against the Education Scholarship Trust Fund last month. While we are still waiting on a decision in that case, we wanted to share a list of organizations

that are using your taxpayer dollars to fund private school education.

[Click Here to View the List](#)

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## S.1188: Expulsion Requirements

[S.1188](#) changes the notification requirements regarding student expulsion. Currently, as part of an expulsion procedure, the school board must schedule a hearing for the student and notify parents/legal guardians in writing. This bill requires the written notification to include explicit mention of the family's right to have legal counsel present at the hearing and the right to request the investigative file for the student.

The full Senate Education Committee gave this bill a favorable report on Wednesday and it passed the Senate in a [37-2](#) vote. It will now head over to the House.

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## S.1158: Prohibiting Open Carry on School Grounds

Earlier this month, the Governor signed a [bill into law](#) that allows people over 18 to carry a weapon either concealed or openly without a permit. After that law was enacted, Sen. Shane Massey introduced [S.1158](#), which prohibits students who are 18 or older from carrying a firearm on public school grounds, even if it is locked in their car.

On Wednesday, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted favorably on this bill, so it now goes to the Senate floor.

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## Statewide Primary Elections

Statewide primary elections will be held on June 11, 2024. To vote in the primary elections, you must be registered to vote at least 30 days before the election.

Check your voter registration and stay up to date on important election information from The SCEA at the link below.

[Click Here to Check Your Registration](#)

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## PAC Committee Interest

If you are interested in serving on the committee to make political recommendations, please email President Sherry East at [seast@thescea.org](mailto:seast@thescea.org).

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## Education Bills That Moved This Week

### [HB4548: EARNINGS LIMITATION](#)

(Oremus, M)

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 9-1-1790, RELATING TO THE EARNINGS LIMITATION FOR A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA RETIREMENT SYSTEM UPON THE

RETURN TO COVERED EMPLOYMENT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THIS LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY TO MEMBERS WHO RETURN TO COVERED EMPLOYMENT AS A SCHOOL BUS DRIVER.

- 4/2/2024 - Introduced and read first time
- 4/2/2024 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance

#### **HB4649: PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

(Bannister, B)

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 59-19-275 SO AS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH MORE THAN FIFTEEN THOUSAND STUDENTS MAY USE CERTAIN SECURITY PERSONNEL TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND SECURITY ON SCHOOL PREMISES IF LICENSED AS A PROPRIETARY SECURITY BUSINESS, AND TO PROVIDE DISTRICTS REMAIN OBLIGATED TO USE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW; BY AMENDING SECTION 40-18-60, RELATING TO PROPRIETARY SECURITY BUSINESS LICENSURE, SO AS TO ADD PROVISIONS CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS APPLYING FOR LICENSURE; BY AMENDING SECTION 40-18-80, RELATING TO SECURITY OFFICER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATION, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION SHALL IMPLEMENT CERTAIN RELATED TRAINING REQUIREMENTS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 40-18-140, RELATING TO EXCEPTIONS FROM PRIVATE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION AGENCY LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO CLARIFY THAT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THESE REQUIREMENTS.

- 4/2/2024 - Introduced and read first time
- 4/2/2024 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

#### **HB4702: COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION INITIATIVE ACT**

(Davis, S)

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "SOUTH CAROLINA COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION INITIATIVE ACT" BY ADDING SECTION 59-29-250 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS THROUGH THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION PLAN AND THE REQUIREMENT THAT EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL OFFERS AT LEAST ONE COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE THAT MEETS CERTAIN CRITERIA, AND TO PROVIDE RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

- 4/2/2024 - Introduced and read first time
- 4/2/2024 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

#### **HB4703: SOUTH CAROLINA STEM OPPORTUNITY ACT**

(Davis, S)

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "SOUTH CAROLINA STEM OPPORTUNITY ACT" BY ADDING ARTICLE 17 TO CHAPTER 1, TITLE 13 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SOUTH CAROLINA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) COALITION, THE SOUTH CAROLINA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) EDUCATION FUND WITHIN THE STATE TREASURY, AND THE SC STEM COALITION ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND TO PROVIDE THEIR RESPECTIVE PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS.

- 4/2/2024 - Introduced and read first time
- 4/2/2024 - Referred to Committee Senate Labor, Commerce and Industry

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## Upcoming Meetings of Interest

Below are meetings scheduled for next week on bills of interest to you. You can click on the date link to view the agenda and the bill number to see the legislation.

**[Wed 4/10 10:00 AM in Gressette Room 308](#)**

**[H 4333](#)** (Mobile Optometry Units)

