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H.4482 is an interesting piece of legislation, that has caused much controversy in the Senate, that names the Columbian Mammoth the official State Fossil and originates from a letter written to Governor Haley by Olivia McConnell a third grader of New Zion, SC. The bill was amended in the Senate on April 1, with language proposed by Sen. Bryant. The bill currently reads:

"Section 1-1-712A. The Columbian Mammoth, *which was created on the Sixth Day with the other beasts of the field*, is designated as the official State Fossil of South Carolina and must be officially referred to as the 'Columbian Mammoth', *which was created on the Sixth Day with the other beasts of the field*." [emphasis added]

Bryant said on his blog that his amendment is meant to recognize the creator of the mammoth, and he believes the amendment does not violate the First Amendment because it is from the Old Testament, which multiple religions adhere to. The bill was amended and received second reading April 2 with language proposed by Sen. Peeler. In addition to naming the official state fossil, the bill now creates a moratorium on the enactment of legislation establishing official state symbols and emblems unless there is future legislative action to remove the moratorium.

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