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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, April 7, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Aiken Standard: DOE yet to release report on projected MOX cost

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140407/AIK0101/140409585/1004/doe-yet-to-release-report-on-projected-mox-cost>

Derrek Asberry

Officials said the Department of Energy say they will release a study that projected the life-cycle cost for the Savannah River Site's MOX program to be \$30 billion, However, there has been no word on when the study will be made available.

Note: After news surfaced that DOE conducted the study, Gov. Nikki Haley, U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R–S.C. and a host of other individuals and organizations have asked to see the study, and have also asked why the information has not been made available sooner.

Aiken Standard: State suspends new student assessment program

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140407/AIK0101/140409581/1004/state-suspends-new-student-assessment-program>

Rob Novit

Aware of the possibility that the S.C. General Assembly will throw out the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, the State Department of Education took a step ahead of that action – suspending the assessment process.

Note: Common Core has been a controversial topic. Some legislators, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley and at least two candidates for state superintendent, would like to repeal it outright.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Greenville News: Sheheen blasts Haley over DSS

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/04/07/sheheen-blasts-haley-dss/7406463/>

Clark Brooks

Sen. Vincent Sheheen told supporters in Greenville that the governor's Social Services director is "cooking the numbers to show, or try to show, that they're actually doing things they're not" when it comes to helping children in the state's child protective services system.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley's media team issued a statement Sunday in response to Sheheen's comments. "Vince Sheheen is a trial lawyer and career politician who never misses a chance to try to personally capitalize on the challenges facing our state - but that's not leadership. Even though one death of a child is heartbreaking, under the Haley administration, we have seen improved child welfare practices, including fewer child deaths, and improved services to families - but Governor Haley knows there are always ways to strengthen our agencies, and that's what she'll continue to work for here."

The State: Some US Senate candidates did not always go to the ballot box

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/06/3372161/some-us-senate-candidates-did.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Not all of the six candidates competing in June's GOP primary against U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-Seneca, regularly participate in the party's statewide and presidential preference primaries, an analysis by The State found. And in one case, a GOP candidate crossed the aisle to vote in a Democratic primary.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Aiken Standard: Coroner reporting law needs to be bolstered

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140407/AIK0201/140409702/1018/AIK02/editorial-coroner->

[reporting-law-needs-to-be-bolstered](#)

Editorial

Strengthening the law that pertains to reporting suspicious child deaths would be a sensible step for the state legislature. S.C. Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, recently introduced a measure that would accomplish that goal by allowing the state Department of Social Services to release details about suspected child abuse and neglect cases that the agency didn't investigate.

Post and Courier: Sad stats demand action

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140407/PC1002/140409535/1021/sad-stats-demand-action>

Editorial

It's shameful that South Carolina's children continue to fall short of their peers across the nation. They are less healthy, less well educated and poorer. It's also shameful that scores in all three areas for the nation's children, and South Carolina's, are closely correlated to race. The gap between African-American and white children remains glaring.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley hopes to spend \$65 million to expand kindergarten for 4-year-olds in some of the state's poorest counties.

Rock Hill Herald: Bill gives school districts new option

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/04/06/5843276/bill-gives-school-districts-new.html?sp=/100/105/121/>

Editorial

A bill that would give more school districts the option of collecting a 1-cent sales tax for construction projects would offer some needed flexibility to the districts. The proposed bill, sponsored by state Sen. Harvey Peeler, R-Cherokee, would allow school boards to ask voters to approve a 1-cent tax increase to pay for new education buildings.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Personnel firm hosts BMW jobs fair in Duncan

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tOC9fLOL

A personnel firm is holding a job fair for people seeking positions at BMW Manufacturing Co.'s South Carolina plant. MAU Workforce Solutions is holding a job fair Monday at Spartanburg Community College's Tyger River Campus in Duncan. Interested applicants are encouraged to fill out an online application before coming in, and everyone must submit to a background check.

Local News:

Greenville News: Upstate district to benefit from White House grant

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2014/04/07/upstate-district-benefit-white-house-grant/7407075/>

President Barack Obama will present \$107 million worth of grants to 24 local education agencies, workforce investment boards, institutions of higher learning and employer partners across the country today as part of his Youth CareerConnect program, including Laurens County School District 56, according to a White House official.

The State: Columbia faces final decision Tuesday on minor-league baseball stadium contract

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/06/3372033/columbia-faces-final-decision.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

Whether the cry of "play ball" will waft across a fancy, new, taxpayer-owned stadium in downtown Columbia comes to a final vote Tuesday. City Council will consider an updated version of a contract to build a \$35 million, year-round, minor league stadium and entertainment venue.

National News:

Associated Press: Pace of presidential prep picks up

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rJQIVXQh

Calvin Woodward

Just about everyone thinking about running for president is kicking it into gear now, slowpokes included. For months, many prospective 2016 presidential candidates have been rubbing shoulders with donors, networking with party leaders, getting on TV and otherwise auditioning for the contest ahead, especially on

the Republican side.

Wall Street Journal: Some Democrats Fight Obama Over Medicare

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304640104579485723297527580?mg=reno64-wsj>

Kristina Peterson, Anna Wilde Mathews

More than two dozen Democrats are fighting the Obama administration over planned cuts to private plans offered in Medicare, tied in part to the 2010 health overhaul, which could divide the party on health care in the run-up to this year's midterm elections.

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