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To: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 6/16/2016 4:36:30 PM
Subject: S.0281

Katherine,

My apologies for the delay. Computer was acting weird so I had to restart it. Here is what I had written up on S.0281; this was before anything took place in committee, so to the extent committee acted and changes were made, this may not reflect those new provisions. Hope it is helpful.

S.0281—Massey—Transparency in Private Attorney Contracts Act—Judiciary (1.13.15)

Prohibits the Attorney General from entering into a contingency fee contract with a private attorney unless he/she first makes a written determination that it is both cost effective and in the public interest.

Proscribes the maximum fee a private attorney can receive under a contingency contract with the Attorney General.

Establishes requirements that must be met throughout the contingency contract period.

Requires all AG contingency fee contracts to be made public, and requires the AG to submit a report to the certain members of the General Assembly describing the use of contingency fee contracts.

Limits the type of evidence related to past medical expenses that can be used in medical malpractice lawsuits.

Adds disclosure provisions related to asbestos trust litigation.

Allows the failure to use a seatbelt to be admissible evidence in a civil action.

Fiscal Impact: minimal impact on the GF, FF, and OF.

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