

148 Haley's last stand?

Senate GOP moderates threatened by active dark money efforts

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Gov. Nikki Haley and political cronies fueled by dark money are working hard and quietly to overthrow the South Carolina Senate.

But Democrats aren't their targets. Moderate Republicans are. And quite frankly, it's scary as all get-out.

This is internecine warfare at its basest level. It's the legacy of gerrymandering that made white legislative districts whiter and black districts blacker. The GOP benefited from the political redrawing of district lines in the mid-1990s because it allowed the party to seize control of the House and Senate for the first time since Reconstruction.

But now Republicans are experiencing the flip side of reapportionment. As the Republican Party factionalized, traditional GOP moderates — country club fiscal conservatives not obsessed about issues like abortion and gay marriage — smacked head-on into fire-breathing, tea-party, limited government acolytes who don't know the meaning of the word "compromise."

This second group, hungry for power, has figured out the only way it can take over the Senate and drag it backwards is to wrestle power from moderate Republicans in a Soviet-style putsch. Why? Because all of that gerrymandering in the 1990s made the minority Democratic districts almost bulletproof, drawn in a way that it's virtually impossible to elect a Republican there.

"The only chance they've got to reshape the Senate is the remake the Republican members," one Democrat observed.

According to sources, Senate moderates targeted by an under-the-radar, cash-laden campaign include high-profile

GOP players such as Senate President Pro Tem and Finance Chair Hugh Leatherman of Florence, Judiciary Chair Larry Martin of Pickens, Banking and Insurance Chair Wes Hayes of Rock Hill, Ethics Chair Luke Rankin of Conway and veteran Paul Campbell of Goose Creek. Each reportedly has serious challengers.

Haley, through her longtime strategist Tim Pearson, recently formed A Great Day SC PAC, a 527 political organization that allows it to raise unrestricted, or dark, money. Another political action committee, The Movement Fund, with pro-Haley ties reportedly raised \$1.8 million from 2011 to 2014 to help the governor's preferred candidates. Other nationally organizations walking in lock step here to reshape the Senate include the



Andy Brack
The Statehouse Report

Club for Growth and Americans for Prosperity, both of which have strong ties to out-of-state money pools offered by wealthy activists, such as the billionaire Koch brothers.

"Their primary support comes from the Koch brothers," one Senate insider noted. "They attack candidates on a collaborative basis on different fronts. It appears they're different groups, but they're really one in the same group — same source of funding, same message."

What's scary is that these groups, if successful, could seize control of the state Senate for a comparatively cheap price — less than \$2 million or so,

perhaps. That might sound like a lot of money, but for ideologically-motivated businessmen, it's not too much in the broad view. They can get their way in South Carolina for what seems to be a good "investment."

If Haley and company are successful in the June GOP primary, they could reshape the Senate Republican Caucus, ridding it of long-time leaders who take a broad view of public service and consider the needs of the whole state, not just partisan or parochial interests.

And if you think things in Columbia are bad now, having a more partisan Senate with a narrow focus would be a disaster for anyone who wants state government to help solve real problems. A purge of Senate GOP moderates would be a victory for the dream of those who want state government to be so small that it drowns in a bathtub.

"The state works best when you have 46 senators who have a statewide perspective on issues," a longtime elected official said. "What they're trying to do is to elect people who are antagonists who don't want to invest in South Carolina."

"The Republican Party has been hijacked by [Donald] Trump at the national level and by the dark money here in South Carolina."

Knowledge is power. When you're listening to what's being said about candidates in the June primary, look behind the rhetoric and see what's really going on. Don't be hoodwinked.

Andy Brack is editor and publisher of Statehouse Report. Have a comment? Send to: feedback@statehousereport.com.



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Saturday proclaimed Clayton Richardson Day in Hartsville

BY ARDIE ARVIDSON
aarvidson@hartsvill messenger.com

For more than 45 years, Clayton Richardson has worked to bring peace, harmony and goodwill to his native Hartsville. And on Saturday, declared Clayton Richardson Day in Hartsville, he was honored by his family with a celebration dinner at the Jerusalem Baptist Church fellowship hall attended by about 150 well-wishers, including family, friends and community leaders, many

of whom reflected on the life and contributions of Richardson.

Speakers included Jannie Harriott, People to People; Dianne Montgomery, Hartsville Boys and Girls Club; Richard Puffer, Coker College; James Samuel, Centenary United Methodist Church; LaQuantia Goodman, Care Innovations, Nancy McGee, business community; Wendell Davis, friend and Bobbie Zimmerman, niece.

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ARDIE ARVIDSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Clayton Richardson (center) was honored Saturday for his service to the community by his family and friends at a dinner at Jerusalem Baptist fellowship hall.





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Clayton

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Entertainment was provided by Anisha Green, soloist, and Reginald Alford, soloist.

At letter from the State of South Carolina Office of the Governor and signed by Gov. Nikki Haley was on display. In the letter, Haley congratulated Richardson on his service to the Hartsville community and thanked him for all he has done "to make the Palmetto State a better place to live, work and learn."

In a proclamation signed by Mayor Mel Pennington, Saturday was declared as Clayton Richardson Day for all of his civic mindedness and his "invaluable community service."

Details of Richardson's life, along with a video tribute in pictures, were shared with the guests.

Richardson was born to Adolphus and Rosa Cooper Zimmerman Richardson and attended Hartsville Public Schools. He is a graduate of Butler High School and earned his Bachelor's degree in so-

ciology from Johnson C. Smith University, making the last of eight children to complete college.

He served in the United States Air Force for 20 years with deployment to Korea and Saudi Arabia. After being honorably discharged in 1971, he spent two or three months touring Europe before returning to Hartsville.

He is co-founder of People to People and the Butler Heritage Foundation.

He has served on the boards of the Boy Scouts of American, Cub Scouts, Boys and Girls Club of Hartsville and Communities in School. He has participated in initiatives such as Soup and Cornbread lunches, street clean ups and health forums.

As part of People to People, he organized the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in Hartsville for many years.

Richardson has served on many committees and task forces advocating open dialogue and positive race relationships for the United Way of Hartsville, the Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce, city of Hartsville, Hartsville Police Department,

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Care-South Carolina, Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center, Coker College, Darlington County Coordinating Council, the Palmetto Project and others.

In February, he was named Volunteer of the Year by the Hartsville United Way. The presentation was made at the 95th Annual Meeting and Banquet of the Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce.

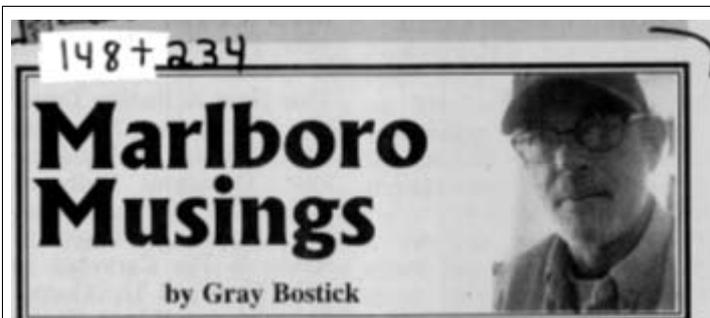
He attends Centenary United Methodist Church.

He likes to traveling, enjoys good home cooking and talking to people about "an idea."

At the end of the program, Richardson thanked everyone for attending and taking part in the celebration, for their contributions to his favorite charities and for the kind words spoken about him. He said he could let the opportunity pass to encourage people to come together as one and to remember to vote, but to not wait until the election in November, but to vote in all elections.



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Bricks and bridges over bread

Agriculture, it has been boldly stated, IS America's oil. I can almost guarantee if you're reading this in Marlboro County, you're within five minutes of a farm field of some sort. Productive agriculture is such a part of our heritage that it was once said that land here sold by the pound, not the acre. And as a nation, none of us has ever been truly famished hungry. We've been blessed to live in the Land of Milk and Honey, where no one should want or need. Nor really do without. Generally speaking, most of us have never encountered a true lack of food, nor endured the hardships bare shelves must bring. All thanks to agriculture. Thank a farmer; we all gotta eat.

But do you know what a farmer really is? A farmer is a guy who takes the initiative and spends the cash, in advance, in thousands, to put seeds in the ground, hoping that everything will go right and he'll get a nice stand. Then he nurtures those plants along with fertilizer and care, eyeing the sky hoping for timely rains to help it along. He's the guy who doffs his cap and scratches a furrowed and worried brow hoping that the weather forecasters are wrong and that the last few weeks of dry, blistering bright and hot weather will soon break, or faces the expense of irrigating a crop. The guy who prays that a summer thunderstorm passes over that parched dry unirrigated 40-acre patch that was looking so bad yesterday, while also hoping that the same storm will not bring crop-destroying hail or wind. The guy who, due to his diligence and the Grace of God, thankfully produces a crop, and then has to hope that lingering late season rains don't hamper his harvest, or reduce the value of his crop, all while balancing marketing decisions as the price for his product continuously fluctuates, sometimes radically, as the crop ripens.

To me, farmers are the biggest gamblers on the planet. If I farmed I'd just fly to Vegas, have a couple stiff drinks, and, in four hands of blackjack, know what kind of year I'd had.

Anyway, what did 2015 provide SC farmers in return for their positive persistence, financial investment and weeks of worry? Well, a late spring freeze that stunted or killed fruit buds proved the first thing to cause hopes to dwindle, then drought conditions developed over the summer as row crops of all types fought to produce, at best, reduced yields, followed by a wet late season, topped off with historic flooding that either totally destroyed crops or severely limited production. In short, it was a bust. According to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, the total agricultural loss due to freeze, drought, and flood for 2015 approached \$600 million. All many SC farmers got last year was fuel bills and invoices from agri-suppliers. And, now, a bleak start to 2016.

And it matters. Tremendously. I worked for agri-business giant Archer Daniels Midland, the "Supermarket to the World," for 17 years as a grain merchant or terminal manager/operator. Thus, I spent a lot of days working in or visiting local grain elevators, meeting farmers from Mobile, Alabama to Memphis, Tennessee. In some years, I played a role in the buying of 15+ million bushels of southeastern grain: corn, wheat, and soybeans.

And that was really just chump change to the Big Boys out in the Great Midwest. So while I didn't grow up on a farm, and despite the fact I've never even cranked a combine harvester, I do understand explicitly what exactly is required in order to need one. I say all that to say this: when it comes to agribusiness, I know of what I speak. And folks our farmers





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are in trouble, dire trouble in many cases; 2015 drove many to the brink. It reminds of dark days during my years in the grain business, when several farmers I'd traded with, good men all, committed suicide, when, due to matters beyond their control and despite their best efforts, they were forced to watch as the generations-long held family farm slowly went under. That is how brutally cold that reality can get. For many, farming is not just a job, it's a passion.

And now hope of fiscal relief for our already financially strained SC farmers—and, even more importantly, hopes of getting a critical-to-some 2016 off to a good start—is tied up in governmental haggling. While it should be a non-issue, as evidenced by the SC House's unanimous passage of a bill that would make \$40 million in specifically-targeted aid from state surplus funds available to farmers to keep operations afloat, the measure is currently under debate in the SC Senate and appears to be in danger of being tied to or even forced to compete for those same funds with infrastructure repair projects.

Additionally, care must be taken to ensure that any measure directly assisting farmers be carefully framed to avoid possible veto by Governor Nikki Haley who has expressed her belief that any disaster relief funds be equally allocated to all who were affected. Haley contends farmers should not be treated differently than other flood-impacted businesses in South Carolina, despite the fact that, unlike retailers, farmers cannot clean up, restock and re-open for business. Bless your heart, Governor, but that's not how farming works, ma'am. Every crop is a once-a-year shot; there are no do-overs. Haley has also noted that crop insurance should be sufficient for af-

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Musings

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affected farmers, even though the reality is those with both the foresight and means to do so, buying the very best crop insurance possible, could not possibly recoup via insurance claims all the dollars expended throughout the 2015 season on seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, expensive diesel fuel to power equipment, and labor to assist in farm operations.

Even more disheartening is the fact that federal monies could almost certainly already be being accessed had Haley been more insistent on behalf of SC farmers, instead of merely asking that federal claims be processed as quickly as possible. To say that I am discouraged at the current disarray of bureaucratic horse manure that creates this kind of logjam is a gross understatement.

Folks, I'm disappointed. No, I'm dismayed that farm funding is even an issue; it

should be near the top of everyone's list. I'm very sympathetic toward those, both commercial and residential, who suffered loss due to floodwaters; and I'm a huge fan of parity in funding distribution—in most cases. But not when it comes to agriculture. You cannot compare farming to retail or residential or even infrastructure concerns; it's simply apples and oranges. Vote "Yes" on farm funding, whatever it takes, then move on to argue about something else, something of far less importance.

Enough is enough. Put aside party platforms or political hopes or promises or ANYTHING that precludes expediting getting real dollars to South Carolina's farmers so they can take a breath, then take advantage of this warm stretch and get busy feeding us. And do it yesterday. Mother Nature will not wait.

How far from our heritage must we go?

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March 10, 2016

The State Capitol Report

Submitted by
Rep. Patricia "Pat" Henegan
SC House District #54

I am happy to report that some of the problems I had with this year's State Health Plan have been fixed. The plan will now cover the costs of treating injuries resulting from domestic violence and attempted suicide.

Earlier this year, Rep. Mary Tinkler, who is my suitemate, and I noticed that the 2016 health benefits guide excluded those items from coverage. We talked to representatives from the agency (PEBA) overseeing the health plan and then introduced legislation (**H 4934 and H 4935**) to require coverage. On March 9, the exclusions were eliminated from the health plan. We also are working with PEBA to cover adult annual well visits. The State Health Plan is the health insurance plan for state employees, as well as teachers, county and city employees and many other public employees.

I am working to help reform the foster care system, an issue I know that folks back home care a lot about. I have co-sponsored a series of bills (**H 4492, H 4493, H 4546**) to ensure foster care parents receive adequate notice about court hearings, to allow them to submit written reports to add to the case file and to give adoption priority for certain foster parents.

In this Capitol Report, I will be discussing the pros and cons of the state budget proposal that is coming up for debate on the House floor on Monday, March 21. Before your eyes glaze over at this topic, remember that the budget is one of the most important measures we take up every year in the Legislature. It determines how much money will flow to hundreds of state agencies, commissions, boards, programs - and all of their employees, as well as teachers, police officers, retirees and others covered in the state health and retirement plans.

The budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2016-17, which starts July 1, totals approximately \$26 billion, an amount that is greater than that approved last year, since we have nearly \$309 million additional federal dollars and nearly \$1.3 billion in new state funding. The proposal has been approved by the House Ways and Means Committee and is now being circulated to legislators.

Fortunately, the budget includes pay raises for state employees and teachers, aid to farmers to help them recover from last fall's flooding and greater funding for public education and roads. However, I am disappointed that the budget does not provide enough money to the Local Government Fund and for criminal domestic violence reforms.

The budget includes \$212.5 million for the Local Government Fund, the same amount appropriated last year and \$111 million lower than the level required by state law. The Local Government Fund is a pot of state money distributed to county and municipal governments to help them pay for state-mandated local services, such as housing state inmates and maintaining offices for magistrates, probate courts, public defenders and family and circuit courts.

Moreover, the budget fails to fully fund Governor Nikki Haley's proposal for domestic

violence reform. She sought nearly 40 new prosecutors to exclusively handle criminal domestic violence cases. While the budget funds many new prosecutors, they are not specifically assigned to criminal domestic violence cases. It is astounding to me that prosecutors dealing with criminal domestic violence were not funded, as South Carolina has the highest rate of women murdered by men - more than any other state in the country!

The \$26 billion budget includes \$8.2 billion in state general funds, \$8.4 billion in federal funds and \$9.8 billion in "other" funds, raised from fees, fines and tuition.

Here are some highlights:

State workers would receive a pay raise of 1 percent, costing the state \$16 million. The budget also includes \$23.2 million to cover a 2 percent salary increase for teachers and a one-year step increase. The state would cover increases in healthcare premiums.

Some \$130 million is set aside for tax relief initiatives, in the event that tax reform legislation (**H 3579, H 3147**) is approved in both chambers.

\$40 million was set aside to create the S.C. Farm Aid Fund, to aid rural farmers hit hardest by the catastrophic flooding in October. The fund would be created under legislation (**H 4717**) that recently passed the House and went to the Senate. Farmers could apply for grants to recover up to 20 percent of the costs of their crop loss - up to \$100,000. Meanwhile, we received word last week that the state will receive nearly \$157 million in federal disaster recovery funds to help the state recover from the floods.

The budget would provide nearly \$662,000 to the state Department of Health and Environmental Control for its dam safety program. Approximately \$72 million would go to the Adjutant General's Emergency Management Division, for the state and local match needed to secure Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds.

The Department of Transportation would receive more than \$37 million in one-time money to repair roads damaged in the floods, and \$185 million in one-time funds would go to county transportation committees to repair roads and bridges and nearly \$66 million in vehicle sales tax revenue would be transferred to the Transportation Infrastructure Bank to leverage bonds to finance bridge replacement and improvements to mainline interstates.

The base student cost for educating public school students would be raised \$130 per student to a total of \$2,350 per pupil. The base student cost is the average cost of educating one public school student, and is used, in addition to other factors, to help determine the amount of state funding for public schools. The Department of Education budget also includes \$10 million to lease or purchase new school buses and \$19 million for bus driver salaries.

The budget would forgive a \$12 million loan made to South Carolina State University if





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the university meets certain conditions, such as balancing its budget. The university is in its second year of probation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools because of financial issues.

\$3.5 million for an instructional building at Northeastern Technical College and another \$3.5 million for an academic building at Florence-Darlington Technical College.

\$129 million in new recurring funds would support the Medicaid program.

\$4 million would go to the Department of Health and Human Services, to partner with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine to develop a plan addressing medically underserved communities through a Rural Health Initiative.

\$33 million in state and federal funds would be allocated to the state's Rural Infrastructure Bank, which issues competitive grants for infrastructure projects in poor, rural communities.

\$4.2 million is included for the sexually-violent predator program at the state Department of Mental Health. Using \$3.5 million in recurring funds, the budget provides for an increase in monthly family foster care and kinship care payment rates. The S.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, which provides services across the state, would receive \$800,000 in one-time funds. Some \$800,000 in recurring funds would go to the S.C. Center for Fathers and Families.

\$100,000 would go to the SC Department of Juvenile Justice (SCDJJ) to fund AMIKids South Carolina, a program that partners with the SCDJJ and school districts in rehabilitating youth with a troubled past. AMIKids operates residential treatment programs in Bennettsville,

Chesterfield, Georgetown, Beaufort and Union and two Infinity Schools in Orangeburg and Bennettsville.

\$10.3 million in federal funds to the state Department of Public Safety would help cover the costs of equipping police officers with body cameras.

\$1 million would be allotted to the State Library's Aid to County Libraries program, which will help county libraries, such as the Marlboro County library system, which is hoping to replace two aging children's computers and purchase a computer for genealogy research.

The \$419 million in projected lottery funds would be used to provide full-funding for LIFE Scholarships, Palmetto Fellows, need-based grants, as well as funding for tuition grants and new school buses. Unclaimed prizes would be used to add \$1.7 million to state library aid to county libraries, an additional \$3.5 million for school bus lease or purchase, and \$5 million for workforce scholarships and grants.

I can be reached in Columbia on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 803-212-6896. My Columbia address is Rep. Pat Henegan, 333A Blatt, P.O. Box 11867, Columbia, SC, 29211 or pathenegan@schouse.gov. On Mondays and Fridays, you can reach me at 843-479-7838. You may also call 843-479-5622 to set up an appointment to meet me on Mondays or Fridays at my Bennettsville office at the Office of Veterans Affairs in the D.D. McColl House, 300 West Main Street. The address of my local office is P.O. Box 41, Bennettsville, SC 29512.

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We finished up the week of legislative session in the South Carolina House clearing the way for South Carolina institutions of higher learning to be more competitive in addition to making significant headway on important pro-life reform.

After a year of pressure from South Carolinians who continue to suffer on our hazardous roadways, the Senate has finally amended and returned the road/DOT reform bill we sent them last year. We will be discussing and debating their revisions this week.

Citizens should expect and receive certain basic services from their government, safe roads and bridges being chief among them. I continue to hear from voters in our district that fixing our roads remains their top priority. My House colleagues and I do not intend to delay the passage of this important road funding legislation and will address it as quickly as we are able to do so.

I'm pleased to report we have but one final hurdle to clear in getting the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act to a conference committee.

In conference, minute details can be cleared up between both the House and Senate allowing a final passage in both legislative bodies placing the bill on Governor Nikki

Haley's desk for her signature.

As House conservatives, we have been working for many months to move this important legislation, and I am hopeful that in the coming weeks I will be able to report our efforts have been successful. Protecting the unborn from violent pain while in the womb is not a political issue, but a moral imperative that I am proud to support.

Finally, after many months of deliberation in subcommittee and full committee the House Ways and Means Committee introduced the state's annual budget for fiscal year 2016/2017.

The bill is currently in the process of being printed and preparations are underway for initial debate on the House floor. Funding our necessities in South Carolina with your precious tax dollars is a responsibility I take seriously. The initial proposal can be found here, and I welcome your feedback and suggestions.

I want to thank everyone who has been so nice to me and Reene during the Senate election. We have met some wonderful people and renewed friendships with others. I can not stress enough how important it is to vote on March 22.

Voter turnout is the key. I have been humbled to serve you in the SC House of Representatives for the last 10 years, and would ask that

you make me your State Senator on March 22.

I enjoyed visiting with West Pelzer and Williamston Fire Departments on March 7. I was hosted by a great crowd at the Williamston, Piedmont Lions Club on March 8. I saw many familiar faces and met many new friends.

On Thursday, Greenwood County veterans affairs officer Carey Bolt gave me a tour of the Greenwood County Veterans Center. He and his staff are to be commended for the work they do for Greenwood County veterans at this facility.

Also on Thursday, I visited with officers from Starr, Iva, Flat Rock Bowen and Williford fire departments.

On Friday, it was my pleasure to participate in a check presentation with AT&T for the Honea Path Free Clinic.

As always, thank you for the privilege of serving you in Columbia. If I can ever be of assistance to you, or if you have ideas on issues you want me to share with the rest of the General Assembly, please don't hesitate to contact me at home, 400 Filter Plant Road, Honea Path, SC 29654, telephone (864) 844-3614; my Columbia Office, 436B Blatt Building, Columbia, SC 29211, telephone (803) 734-2947 or email me at mikegambrell@schouse.gov.

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148 Gov. Haley signs bill to create domestic violence committees

Governor Nikki Haley has signed into law a bill that establishes a Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee in each of the 16 Solicitor Circuits.

Legislation formalizing a fatality review process for domestic violence was recommendation 19 of the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force's Report from August 2015. South Carolina was just one of nine states that did not have a domestic fatality review team.

Under the new law, Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees will identify and review deaths linked to domestic violence and make recommendations to the State Domestic Violence Advisory, which was created by the 2015 Domestic Violence Reform Bill. Committees will be made up of local domestic violence advocates, law enforcement and medical professionals, and others with expertise investigating domestic violence cases.

"I want to thank everybody who was a part of this," said Governor Haley. "This is the beginning of what is going to be South Carolina reforming herself to say that survivors matter, victims matter, and that domestic abuse is part of the past, and not part of the future of South Carolina."

Members of the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force, Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin, Speaker Pro Tempore Tommy Pope celebrated the signing with the governor during a recent ceremony at the Statehouse.

"I am greatly encouraged by the passage of the domestic violence fatality review bill in South Carolina," said Dr. Neil Weisdale, Director of the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative.

"Setting up a network of review teams will help create and/or enhance coordinated community responses to domestic violence, thus building better protections for victims and encouraging greater offender accountability."

"I want to commend everybody standing here today and everyone up in the chambers who are responsible for this bill," said Chairman Martin.



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148 Haley says she's likely to sign bill restricting abortion

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley said Tuesday that she will almost certainly sign a bill banning abortion past 19 weeks in South Carolina.

"I can't imagine any scenario in which I wouldn't sign it," said the Republican governor. She said she will look at the details once the bill reaches her desk.

That could be soon. The GOP-controlled House is expected to vote Wednesday on a compromise the Senate passed last week.

The measure allows exceptions only if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb. That exemption for a "fetal anomaly" was crucial for the bill clearing the Senate, where Democrats have blocked the leg-

islation since 2010.

Such anomalies are generally detected around 20 weeks.

Similar laws are in effect in 12 states. They've been blocked by court challenges in three others. But the U.S. Supreme Court has yet to rule on the ban's constitutionality.

Supporters believe a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks. Opponents argue such later-term abortions involve women who want a child but are confronted with a medical diagnosis that forces a difficult decision that shouldn't be up to politicians.

The measure's limited definition of "fetal anomaly" means it would be illegal to abort a fetus with a severe disability if the child could live.

Haley said Tuesday that she has always supported anti-abortion measures. She's previously

explained that support as personal.

"I'm strongly pro-life, very pro-life and not because my party tells me to be, but my husband was adopted, and so every day I know the blessings of having him there," Haley said during her 2010 campaign for governor.

As a House member that year, Haley voted to end abortion coverage in the state health plan for employees who are victims of rape and incest. The Senate defeated that proposal.

In 2012, Haley signed a bill intended to ensure that a fetus surviving an abortion attempt is not treated as medical waste. It defined a person as anyone who is breathing and has a beating heart after birth, whether by labor, cesarean section, or abortion, copying a 2002 federal law enforceable on federal property.