

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 12/8/2015 8:13:05 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Morning Clips – Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Charlotte Business Journal: South of the (NC) border, a rising GOP star

http://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/blog/queen_city_agenda/2015/12/south-of-the-nc-border-a-rising-gop-star.html

Erik Spanberg

Four years ago, first-term Gov. Nikki Haley endorsed Mitt Romney in the 2012 Republican primary. Her endorsement was viewed as a coup for Romney. The former Massachusetts governor could pick up Tea Party support with Haley aboard, analysts predicted.

Note: “People don’t understand,” she said when I asked her about Washington and, specifically, the possibility of being part of the next ticket. “Look at this year. When have I had time to think about it? So it’s the furthest thing that I’ve thought about. I appreciate that my name comes up. But there are a few things people need to think about. There are 16 (sic) candidates, which means there are 15 very good candidates (for vice president). Secondly, I have a daughter that’s a senior in high school and a son that’s in eighth grade. I’m at that point where I’ve really got to focus on my family.”

Note: And yet ... “Should someone ask to sit down with me, of course I would sit down with them. But there’s a lot of other factors at play. And I’ve still got things I want to finish in South Carolina.”

Post and Courier: S.C. farmers plead for immediate flood assistance

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151207/PC1603/151209537>

Gavin Jackson

Hundreds of farmers traveled to the Statehouse on Monday to ask Gov. Nikki Haley to request immediate federal assistance to stave off bankruptcies and foreclosures after historic rains and flooding in October wiped out crops. S.C. Farm Bureau President Harry Ott said before a news conference that farmers can’t relocate and reopen like flooded-out small businesses.

Note: Haley has made a request for expedited crop insurance claims to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, but the governor’s spokeswoman, Chaney Adams, said Monday that Haley does not intend to ask for supplemental funding for farmers.

Note: “What the Farm Bureau has asked for is direct cash payments from the federal government to farmers who chose to be under-insured, something that no other industry in the state is asking for or will be receiving, and the governor does not believe we should treat farmers differently than any other business owners in South Carolina,” Adams said.

Associated Press: Haley says she won't seek direct aid for destroyed crops

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

Seanna Adcox

Farmers packed the Statehouse on Monday to beg Gov. Nikki Haley to ask Congress for money to offset their estimated \$376 million in losses from last month's historic flooding. But the Republican governor is unwavering in her refusal. Farmers should have federally subsidized crop insurance, and under-insured farmers shouldn't be bailed out, her office said.

Note: "The governor does not believe we should treat farmers differently than any other business owner in South Carolina," said her spokeswoman Chaney Adams.

The State: Improving 32 flood-damaged bridges would cost \$55 million

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article48532000.html>

Cassie Cope

Major repairs to 32 structurally deficient bridges damaged in October’s flooding would cost \$55 million, the state’s interim roads chief said Monday. That cost would be in addition to the \$137 million in federal and state money to repair road damage from the flooding. The state Transportation Department is asking for \$49

million from the state for those repairs.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley must ask the federal government for money to offset losses not covered by crop insurance, Weathers said. But Haley has not requested the money, he said.

Note: But Haley's office said the affected farmers had access to federally subsidized crop insurance and lost revenue insurance.

Note: "(W)hat the Farm Bureau has asked for is direct cash payments from the federal government to farmers who chose to be underinsured, something that no other industry in the state is asking for or will be receiving, and the governor does not believe we should treat farmers differently than any other business owners in South Carolina," Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said.

WLTX: Senators Ask to Help SC's Farmers, Ag Industry

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/local/2015/12/07/senators-ask-help-scs-farmers-ag-industry/76952412/>

Joyce Koh

South Carolina's number one industry, agribusiness, is still in desperate need following the October Flood. With a loss at \$376 million and counting, the Department of Agriculture and SC Farm Bureau Federation asked a special Senate Committee for support in asking the Governor to request federal assistance.

In a statement to News 19, Haley's press secretary, Chaney Adams said: "Agriculture is the number one industry in South Carolina, and there has never been a time since taking office when Governor Haley did not stand with our farmers - and she stands with them today. The historic flood that hit South Carolina in October damaged businesses and homes across our state, and farmers were not spared. ..."

The State: Panel: U.S. shouldn't label all Muslims terrorists

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article48557935.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

Zohra Arastu migrated to the United States from India with her husband, a young surgeon, in 1976. In addition to being an artist and a mother, she teaches American children how to read translations of the Quran properly. But recently, she has grown more concerned that U.S. presidential candidates are playing the race card against Muslims, preying on "Islamophobia" to gain votes.

Note: Several Republican presidential candidates and governors, including South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, have said Syrian refugees should be barred from entering the country.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: Trump calls for 'complete shutdown' on Muslims entering US

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=y8T6ASp4

Jill Colvin, Bruce Smith

Donald Trump called Monday for a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States," an idea swiftly condemned by his rival GOP candidates for president and other Republicans. The proposed ban would apply to immigrants and visitors alike, a sweeping prohibition affecting all adherents of Islam who want to come to the U.S.

Post and Courier: Trump calls for a total ban on Muslims entering the U.S.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151207/PC1603/151209500>

Cynthia Roldan, Schuyler Kropf

Republican front-runner Donald Trump chose the aircraft carrier Yorktown to make perhaps the most extreme statement of his political career, calling for a "total and complete" ban on Muslims entering the U.S. "until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on."

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: S.C. GOP leader condemns Donald Trump's call to stop immigration from all Muslims

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151208/PC1603/151209495>

Maya T. Prabhu

While Donald Trump read aloud the press release he sent Monday afternoon stating his desire for a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States" to supporters aboard the aircraft carrier Yorktown in Mount Pleasant, the chairman of the state's Republican Party spoke up against the proposal.

CNN: NH, SC and Iowa GOP chairs criticize Trump's plan for Muslims

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/12/07/politics/donald-trump-muslim-travel-ban-early-states/>

Theodore Schleifer

The Republican leaders of the three most important states in the primary contest are all condemning Donald Trump's plans to forbid Muslims from coming to the United States. In a series of tweets and statements on Monday evening, the New Hampshire, Iowa and South Carolina Republican Party chairmen said they disagreed with Trump's stunning call for the U.S. to ban Muslim visitors or immigrants.

Associated Press: Gov. John Kasich joining Alan Wilson for constitutional chat
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=euxGgdYF

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is sitting down with South Carolina's top prosecutor to talk about law and the constitution. Kasich is bringing his Republican presidential campaign to Myrtle Beach on Tuesday, when he is scheduled to participate in an hour-long forum hosted by the Conservative Leadership Project.

S.C. General Assembly News:

WBTW: SC lawmakers want to ban electronic devices from the classroom, teachers disagree
<http://wbtw.com/2015/12/07/sc-lawmakers-want-to-ban-electronic-devices-from-the-classroom-teachers-disagree/>

Taylor Herlong

As of last week, South Carolina lawmakers can now pre-file bills in the State House and Senate before the next session starts in January. One of those bills is causing controversy by asking that all wireless, electronic devices be banned while class is in session.

Post and Courier: Charleston County constituent school boards ask lawmakers to restore hiring powers
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151207/PC16/151209497>

Deanna Pan

At the urging of some local school officials, Charleston County lawmakers agreed to review a proposal restoring the constituent district school boards' power to make personnel decisions. All but two of Charleston County's eight constituent school boards — North Charleston District 4 and James Island District 3 — signed a resolution asking lawmakers to repeal two amendments that stripped them of their authority to hire principals and other school employees.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Lake City News and Post: Guest column: 'Giving Tuesday' can continue, through One SC Fund
http://www.snow.com/newsandpost/article_596532c4-9d25-11e5-936b-b7b603fae117.html

Sen. Kent Williams

If you paid attention to the national media, you would think our Thanksgiving holiday weekend was more about shopping than for sharing meals and spending time with family and friends.

Consider the post-Thanksgiving holiday itinerary: There was Black Friday, which, for some retailers, began Thanksgiving. Then, there was Small Business Saturday.

Note: Giving Tuesday is billed as an opportunity to transform the world around us and make our communities better places to live. Gov. Nikki Haley tapped into the transformative power of charitable giving when she announced last month the launch of a fundraising effort to aid victims of South Carolina's devastating October flooding with rebuilding. It's called the One SC Fund.

Note: "When government is done, we have to keep going, and so we started a One South Carolina fund ... to allow us to complete the work the government can't do," Haley said. "We're saying if you were blessed and did not have damage with your home, if you were blessed and you had insurance, if you were blessed and you're able to get back into a safe place, pay it forward."

The State: Busybody bureaucrats? Regulators gone wild?

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scopepe/article48467315.html>

Cindi Ross Scopepe

STATE HEALTH inspectors swooped in on three abortion clinics this fall, making unscheduled inspections that turned up regulatory violations and resulted in suspended licenses and fines that are still being negotiated. The most frequently mentioned violations involved paperwork problems and aborted fetuses being sterilized with steam rather than incinerated.

Note: When DHEC issued its first orders against the abortion clinics, Gov. Haley declared that "We will not tolerate law breaking of any kind." It was quite a statement from a governor who does not always let pesky little things like the law get in her way, and who has been an aggressive combatant in the war on regulations.

Post and Courier: Speech offers little new

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151208/PC1002/151209505>

Editorial

President Obama's speech to the nation on Islamic State, or as he prefers to call it, ISIL, was cool, calm, collected and repetitive. He argued that he is already doing what is needed, consisting of sporadic bombing and continued efforts to find effective local allies to crush the enemy — the latter, a program with limited success.

Greenville News: Bill would streamline FOIA process

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/08/bill-would-streamline-foia-process/76799540/>

Sen. Larry Martin

Most of us saw recent news accounts of a Chicago police officer involved shooting that occurred one year ago. The dashcam video of that tragic incident shows a young man being shot in the back. Evidence was released last week that the young man was shot 14 more times as he lay on the ground, purportedly by the same officer's gun.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Santee Cooper board takes up rate hike, solar program, Century Aluminum impasse

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151207/PC05/151209519>

David Wren

Santee Cooper customers will see their rates increase by an average of 3.7 percent over each of the next two years as part of a \$2.7 billion budget approved Monday by the state-owned electric utility's board of directors. Santee Cooper and Century are at a stalemate on contract negotiations, and Century has said it will shut down the aluminum smelter on Dec. 31 if a new deal isn't reached.

Associated Press: SC Supreme Court won't rehear wrongful-discharge lawsuit

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=b74v0JLu

The South Carolina Supreme Court has announced it will not rehear a wrongful-discharge lawsuit brought against Anderson County by former county administrator Michael Cunningham. The Independent Mail reports (<http://bit.ly/1Nfgiv2>) justices from the state's high court denied Cunningham's motion on Thursday.

Local News:

Florence Morning News: Pee Dee law enforcement react to body camera guidelines

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_15e504d6-9da0-11e5-9586-1fe85883cdb1.html

Joshua Lloyd

Over the weekend, state law enforcement officials approved the guidelines that all agencies in the state will use as a basis for individual body camera policies. All law enforcement agencies in the state must follow the guidelines when creating their body camera policy. Agencies have until March to submit their tailored policy to the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy for approval.

Post and Courier: Crusader seeks Charleston school board's support for raising dropout age

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151207/PC16/151209518/crusader-seeks-charleston-school-board-x2019-s-support-for-raising-dropout-age>

Paul Bowers

The Charleston County school board will decide Mon. Dec. 14 whether to throw its support behind a former guidance counselor's simple idea to keep students enrolled: raising the minimum dropout age by a year. South Carolina law currently requires students to stay in school until their 17th birthday. Mark Epstein, a recently retired St. John's High School guidance counselor, is leading a statewide push to raise that age to 18.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304

