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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, January 21, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WIS: In unscripted moment, Nikki Haley calls out Senate's lack of progress on ethics bill
<http://www.wistv.com/story/31024103/in-unscripted-moment-nikki-haley-calls-out-senates-lack-of-progress-on-ethics-bill>

Jeremy Turnage

A moment that went completely off-the-script now has set up a fight for ethics reform in the State House. Wednesday night during her State of the State address before the House and Senate, Gov. Nikki Haley called out the Senate for their lack of movement on ethics reform.

Note: "Last year, I told you I didn't know what else to say about ethics reform, that we'd talked about it for years and that we weren't asking that much, just for some simple, common sense, good government changes," Haley said. "Yet here we are again."

Note: "House members, we're not going to talk to you right now," Haley said before turning her attention to other side of the aisle.

Note: "Senators, we see an opportunity," Haley said. "We see an opportunity because the state is watching. We see an opportunity to show where you stand."

BuzzFeed: Koch-Backed Americans For Prosperity Invests In Red States To Take On GOP
<http://www.buzzfeed.com/tariniparti/koch-backed-americans-for-prosperity-invests-in-red-states-t#.usrOGp7VI>

Tarini Parti

With a month to go before the GOP presidential primary here, a group of activists in the basement of a local pizzeria called voters Tuesday evening to remind them of "corrupt politicians" and "special interests" hijacking their government.

Note: In South Carolina, AFP has zeroed in on the GOP-controlled legislature and Gov. Nikki Haley's push for a 10-cent increase in the gas tax to pay for transportation projects. Haley, a rising star in the Republican Party and potential vice presidential candidate, has said she will veto a hike if it doesn't include reforming the Department of Transportation and income tax.

Note: Some conservative leaders and groups — including the state chapter of Club for Growth, former Sen. Jim DeMint and Grover Norquist's group Americans for Tax Reform — have endorsed Haley's plan.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Associated Press: SC needs rules after putting lieutenant governor on ticket
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bKKXAsIE

Jeffrey Collins

Now that South Carolina voters have approved the governor and lieutenant governor running on the same ticket, lawmakers are working out the details. Chief among them are when someone running for governor picks a running mate - either after the candidates are nominated by their parties or while they are running in the primary.

Associated Press: House subcommittee OKs bill to have panel screen magistrates
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6XSHXkWT

A House panel has approved changes to how county magistrates are chosen and what kind of cases they can hear. A House subcommittee Thursday approved a bill to require candidates for magistrates to be screened and qualified by the same panel that checks the credentials of state judges.

Associated Press: South Carolina Senate to take up roads debate next week
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FdVpsaq0

The Senate plans to start talking about how to find additional money for roads next week. The Senate adjourned Thursday with Sen. Ray Cleary holding the floor. The Republican from Murrells Inlet told senators he wants to debate increasing money for roads first thing Tuesday. Cleary has been trying to craft a bill the Senate can pass for years without success.

S.C. Political News:

McClatchy DC: Presidential candidates will face drilling questions in S.C. primary

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/nation-world/national/article55861110.html>

Vera Bergengruen

Coastal communities, businesses and lawmakers across the state have been taking sides for months as the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management gets ready to release a finalized five-year plan for offshore oil and gas drilling leases this spring that includes waters off South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Georgia.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Summey doesn't want to showcase the Confederate flag or accept the relic museum

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160121/PC1603/160129883>

Schuyler Kropf

North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey opposes the Confederate Relic Room coming to the city is because it would celebrate the Confederate flag, his spokesman said Thursday. Summey could not be immediately reached but it's "because of the Confederate flag-oriented context of the museum," spokesman Ryan Johnson confirmed.

Rock Hill Herald: York County, region braces for 'significant' ice, snow

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article55838220.html>

Jennifer Becknell

A winter storm with an extended period of freezing rain, sleet and snow is expected hit York County and the Carolinas early Friday, with treacherous travel possible through the weekend, forecasters said. "This has the potential to be a significant event," said Danny Gant, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Greer.

Sun News: Horry County under freezing rain advisory

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article55790000.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

The likelihood of freezing rain and a little sleet coming down will increase across areas of northeast South Carolina and southeast North Carolina as strong low pressure forms along the coast and spreads moisture over a cold-air mass, according to Steve Pfaff, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Wilmington, N.C.

Post and Courier: Back on Capitol Hill, Lindsey Graham lays into Cruz, Trump

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160121/PC1603/160129863>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham used his first solo public appearance on Capitol Hill in weeks to lay into the 2016 presidential landscape and his two former rivals, Donald Trump and Ted Cruz, who are leading the pack in Palmetto State polls. The South Carolina Republican, who a week ago endorsed ex-Florida Gov. Jeb Bush for president after failing in his own White House bid, didn't hold back.

Sun News: Murrells Inlet man tapped to take the wheel of state transportation commission

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article55855080.html#storylink=cpy>

Jason M. Rodriguez

Mike Wooten was elected chairman of the S.C. Department of Transportation commission Thursday. His term will last one year. Wooten represents the 7th Congressional District, which includes Horry and Georgetown counties. John N. Hardee of the 2nd Congressional District was elected the new vice chairman.

Island Packet: State report highlights need for more access to services for local Hispanics

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article55800325.html#storylink=cpy>

Lucas High

Language barriers and a distrust of government and law enforcement are preventing many local Hispanics from getting needed health care, education and job training services, according to a report by the S.C. Commission for Minority Affairs. Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in Beaufort County and the largest in Bluffton.

National News:

Politico: Court won't block Obama carbon rules before lawsuit

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/01/dc-court-obama-carbon-rules-218074#ixzz3xuuOFKgl>

President Barack Obama's landmark carbon rule for new power plants has survived its first legal test. The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals decided today to leave the rule in place while it hears lawsuits from states and industry critics that want to kill the regulation. The decision is a major win for the Obama administration, which has made the rule a centerpiece of the president's pledge to fight climate change.

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