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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: South Carolina Governor signs 20-week abortion ban

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Neh9HHae

AP News : South Carolina Governor signs 20-week abortion ban

m.apnews.com

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - Republican Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation Wednesday that immediately outlaws most abortions in South Carolina at 20 weeks beyond fertilization.

The only exceptions

Seanna Adcox

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation Wednesday that immediately outlaws most abortions in South Carolina at 20 weeks beyond fertilization. The only exceptions are if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb. Doctors face up to \$10,000 in fines and 3 years in prison for each violation; prison time is mandatory on a third conviction.

TIME: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley Signs Law Banning Abortion After 19 Weeks

<http://time.com/4348347/nikki-haley-south-carolina-abortion-law/>

Katie Reilly

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation on Wednesday outlawing most abortions at 20 weeks after fertilization. The law passed the General Assembly last week and blocks women from having abortions after 19 weeks of pregnancy, with no exceptions for rape or incest. There are exceptions to the law if the mother's life is threatened or if a doctor determines a "fetal anomaly" would prevent the fetus from surviving after birth. Doctors who violate the law could face a fine or jail time.

The Hill: Nikki Haley approves 20-week abortion ban in SC

<http://64.147.104.30/policy/healthcare/281265-sc-gov-nikki-haley-approves-20-week-abortion-ban>

Sarah Ferris

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. The legislation, which offers exceptions only to women whose lives are threatened or if their fetus would not survive outside the womb, is considered the cornerstone of the anti-abortion movement's policy agenda in 2016. The new law is almost certain to face a court challenge from abortion rights supporters, who argue such laws are unconstitutional. Thirteen other states have also recently enacted 20-week bans, as has the House.

Reuters: South Carolina governor to sign ban on abortion past 19 weeks

<http://www.reuters.com/article/south-carolina-abortion-idUSL2N18M22Q>

Harriet Mcleod

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley on Wednesday signed into law a bill banning most abortions after 19 weeks of pregnancy unless the mother's life is at risk, a spokesperson told Reuters on

Wednesday. The South Carolina legislature passed the bill last week, the 17th U.S. state to approve such a ban. A signing ceremony will take place on a date to be announced later, said Haley spokesperson Chaney Adams. The act, proposed last year in South Carolina's Republican-controlled legislature, passed after it was stripped of exceptions for pregnancies that result from rape or incest.

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley signs bill outlawing abortion at 20 weeks

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1603/160529569>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday signed a bill that makes it illegal for a woman to get an abortion once her pregnancy reaches 20 weeks with no exceptions for rape or incest. The legislation, which went into effect with Haley's signature, was passed out of the Senate last week. The bill would allow doctors to perform abortions past 20 weeks only if the fetus has been diagnosed with an "anomaly" and will die, or the mother's life is threatened. Doctors who disobey the new rules would face jail time.

The State: SC Gov. Haley signs 20-week abortion ban

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79865327.html>

Jamie Self

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley signed into law Wednesday a ban on abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy or later. The ban offers no exceptions for rape or incest – omissions that opponents say will harm some of the state's most vulnerable women. An abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy or later, calculated as the weeks past fertilization, also would be legal if a doctor says it is necessary to protect the mother from death or severe bodily impairment.

Greenville News: Haley signs 20-week abortion ban

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/25/haley-signs-20-week-abortion-ban/84925440/>

Amanda Coyne

Gov. Nikki Haley signed a 20-week abortion ban into law Wednesday afternoon. The legislation bans abortions after 19 weeks of pregnancy and provides no exceptions for cases of rape or incest. Exceptions for the mother's health or a fetal abnormality that would result in death are provided, however. South Carolina has three outpatient abortion facilities -- one each in Greenville, Columbia and Charleston. Those clinics are already banned by state law to perform abortions at or beyond 18 weeks of pregnancy, and do not typically perform abortions past 14 weeks, according to their websites. This new law would then largely apply to abortion procedures in hospitals.

WIS: Gov. Nikki Haley signs SC abortion bill into law

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32064833/gov-nikki-haley-signs-sc-abortion-bill-into-law>

Jeremy Turnage

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has quietly signed a bill into law that bans most abortions after 20 weeks beyond fertilization. The bill passed the South Carolina General Assembly just last week after the House approved it 79-29. The Senate approved it 36-9 in March. However, the bill comes with exceptions only if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb. Similar bans have come up in the past several years in 13 other states.

WYFF: Gov. Nikki Haley signs abortion bill into law

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/gov-nikki-haley-signs-abortion-bill-into-law/39723758?src=app>

Carla Field

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation outlawing most abortions at 20 weeks beyond fertilization. Similar laws are in effect in 12 states. They've been blocked by court challenges in three others. The U.S. Supreme Court has yet to rule on the ban's constitutionality. South Dakota law signed in March takes effect this summer. Supporters believe a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks. Opponents argue such abortions involve wanted pregnancies that go horribly wrong, and politicians should play no role in the difficult decision.

General Assembly News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Slain pastor and SC senator's portrait unveiled

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IfWRm8io

SC State Wire

A South Carolina state senator gunned down during Bible study at the Charleston church where he was pastor has been honored with a portrait in the Senate chamber. The portrait was unveiled Wednesday. It shows Sen. Clementa Pinckney in his beloved Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, hand on a pew in light coming from one of the historic church's stained glass windows. His widow, Jennifer, says her husband might have said he didn't deserve the honor. But she says he was a great man.

The State: Ministers, state lawmakers pray for unity, remember Pinckney

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79836742.html>

Avery G. Wilks and Cassie Cope

State Rep. Terry Alexander recalled a time last spring he and roughly 60 other ministers circled the Confederate flag on the State House grounds. "We prayed and we prayed and we prayed, and a few months later, that flag came down," the Florence Democrat said Wednesday afternoon during the "Prayer Under the Dome" service on the State House steps. "Sad to say that it came down under the conditions that it did, but it came down. We have to marvel at the mysteries of God." Ministers and lawmakers gathered Wednesday to pray again for tolerance and unity, and to remember one of their own killed nearly a year ago. A portrait of Pinckney will be unveiled in the state Senate chamber at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

WLTX: Portrait of Slain Senator Revealed in Senate Chambers

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/portrait-of-slain-senator-revealed-in-senate-chambers/214950040>

A portrait of the late Sen. Clemente Pinckney now hangs in the chamber of the South Carolina Senate, a rare and high tribute for a man who his colleagues remember as "a great example for all." Pinckney's daughters, Eliana and Malana, pulled back a blue drape over the portrait Wednesday afternoon, allowing those assembled inside the Senate chambers to see the image for the first time. "You're well deserving to be hung with greatness, because you are great," his widow, Jennifer Pinckney, said in remarks immediately following the unveiling.

WCSC: Senate unveils portrait of slain Sen. Clementa Pinckney

<http://www.live5news.com/story/32059479/senate-unveils-portrait-of-slain-sen-clementa-pinckney>

The South Carolina Senate unveiled its official portrait of slain Sen. Clementa Pinckney in the Senate chamber Wednesday. Pinckney, a Beaufort native and resident of Ridgeland, served Senate District 45, which covered Allendale, Beaufort, Charleston, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties. He was also the pastor of Mother Emanuel AME Church in downtown Charleston and was one of the nine members of the church gunned down after a Bible study on the evening of June 17. Pinckney's wife, Jennifer, and his daughters, Eliana and Malana, were on hand as the portrait was unveiled.

ABC Columbia: Late Senator's Portrait Unveiled

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/2016/05/24/late-senators-portrait-to-be-unveiled-wednesday/>

Crysty Vaughan

Wednesday State Lawmakers formally unveiled a portrait to honor the memory of Senator Clementa C. Pinckney. Pinckney's two daughters unveiled the portrait. His Wife Jennifer told the chamber, if he were here he'd call himself unworthy to be classified with such greatness. Pinckney was among nine Charleston church members killed at Emanuel AME Church, last June, in a shooting.

Associated Press: Legislators reject complaints, elect Court of Appeals chief

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=VWBtHjQ8

Seanna Adcox

The Legislature has elected Circuit Court of Appeals Judge James Lockemy as the court's next chief judge, despite allegations he broke rules on asking for support. Legislators voted 121-20 on Wednesday in what was the most raucous judicial election in years. That vote came after legislators rejected an attempt by Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin to send the election back through the screening process.

Post and Courier: Scope of 'Tucker Hipps' bill set to broaden beyond fraternity, sorority misconduct
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1603/160529591>

Gavin Jackson

A bill that would increase transparency of misconduct issues by fraternities and sororities heads to the S.C. Senate floor where a proposed amendment could add varsity college athletic teams to the mix. The move comes weeks after several Senate Education Committee members expressed concern about the restrictive nature of the "Tucker Hipps Transparency Act." The bill is named after the Clemson University student and fraternity pledge found dead in Lake Hartwell after an early morning run in 2014.

The State: 'Tucker Hipps' bill headed to SC Senate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79766302.html>

Avery G. Wilks

A bill that would require S.C. public colleges to post online misconduct violations by fraternities and sororities could be headed to a vote on the Senate floor. The bill, named the "Tucker Hipps Transparency Act," passed the Senate Education Committee Wednesday. The bill is named after a Clemson University fraternity pledge whose body was found in Lake Hartwell after a predawn 2014 run with other fraternity members. The bill passed the House 84-0 on March 16 but stalled in the Senate's Education Committee.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Church slaying families accept pursuit of death penalty

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a18e03a861bf43bd9f4ea269a674fc59>

Meg Kinnard

The husband of a woman gunned down at a historic black church in Charleston with eight other people said Wednesday he won't be at peace until the man charged in the slayings is put to death. Steve Hurd, whose wife, Cynthia, was among those killed June 17 during Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal, is one of several family members of victims who support the decisions by state and federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty for Dylann Roof. "What would give me full closure would be if I were the one who pushed the plunger on the lethal injection, or if I were the one to pull the switch on the electric chair or if I was the one to open the valve on the gas chamber," he told The Associated Press. When "Roof's body is cold, sleeping in the ground — that's closure."

LGBT Laws:

Associated Press: 11 states sue over Obama's school transgender directive

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ec4a557e48504934a5a8702d7dc212d4>

Paul J. Weber

Texas and 10 other states are suing the Obama administration over its directive to U.S. public schools to let transgender students use the bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender identity. The lawsuit announced Wednesday includes Oklahoma, Alabama, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Tennessee, Maine, Arizona, Louisiana, Utah and Georgia. The challenge, which asks a judge to declare the directive unlawful, follows a federal directive to U.S. schools this month to let transgender

students use the bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender identity.

Associated Press: US Sen. Richard Burr mum after saying LGBT law went too far

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d7aea9c8d1dc4c16b5f9ae47ab4aaa2f>

North Carolina's senior senator is staying mum about his comments that a new state law limiting some legal protections for LGBT people and directing which bathrooms transgender people could use "was far too expansive." A spokeswoman for U.S. Sen. Richard Burr on Wednesday declined to clarify the senator's statements to The Huffington Post. Burr spokeswoman Taylor Holgate did not respond to a request to interview Burr. Burr said on Tuesday that "the legislature botched what they were trying to do," adding, "it was far too expansive."

SC Political News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Beatty won't talk about potential federal job

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=c4zWmOgY

SC State Wire

The state's next chief justice says he is only thinking about being South Carolina's top judge. Legislators on Wednesday elected Don Beatty to his new job. He was running unopposed. But Beatty has also been nominated by President Barack Obama to be a federal judge in South Carolina. That nomination has not been taken up by the U.S. Senate.

Associated Press: Beatty becomes South Carolina's 2nd black chief justice

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=j3VAEn27

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina has elected its second black chief justice since Reconstruction: a Democrat who clashed with a well-respected Republican lawmaker during a hearing and has been nominated to become a federal judge. Don Beatty celebrated after Wednesday's vote with dozens of friends, family and lawmakers. He was running unopposed for a chief justice term that runs until July 2024, replacing Chief Justice Costa Pleicones, who must retire Dec. 31 after just a year as top judge because he's reached the mandatory retirement age of 72.

The State: Beatty elected S.C. Supreme Court chief justice

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article79793222.html>

John Monk

The S.C. General Assembly on Wednesday elected Donald Beatty to be chief justice of the state Supreme Court. Beatty, the five-person high court's senior associate justice, was the only person in the running for Supreme Court's top job. He takes office Jan. 1. Beatty will be the only the second African-American chief justice since Reconstruction in the 19th century.

Post and Courier: Election of Donald Beatty as chief justice to S.C. Supreme Court moves state in 'progressive manner'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1603/160529590>

Maya T. Prabhu

The election of an African-American to serve as the state's Supreme Court chief justice — the second black man to hold the post — moves the state in a "progressive manner," Associate Justice Donald Beatty said. Beatty, who was unanimously approved during a joint session of the Legislature on Wednesday, said his election speaks volumes about South Carolina. "We're moving forward," he said. "And it's good to see that the Legislature supports this effort."

Greenville News: Don Beatty elected next SC chief justice

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/25/don-beatty-elected-next-sc-chief-justice/84914180/>

Lawmakers today elected Don Beatty of Spartanburg as the next chief justice of the South Carolina

Supreme Court and the second African-American to hold that office since Reconstruction. Also re-elected Wednesday was Associate Justice John Few of Greenville, who was unopposed. Lawmakers, however, offered some drama to Wednesday's judicial elections when a debate erupted over what to do about allegations of pledge violations involving the race for the chief judge of the State Court of Appeals.

Herald-Journal: Friends, family see Beatty elected SC Supreme Court chief justice

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160525/articles/160529782>

Bob Montgomery

S.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice Donald Beatty of Spartanburg has been elected the high court's next chief justice, according to the Associated Press. Beatty, 63, is the second African-American chief justice in South Carolina since Reconstruction. Ernest A. Finney Jr. was the first black state Supreme Court justice and chief justice. He retired from the court in 2000. Beatty, too, is the first chief justice from Spartanburg since Bruce Littlejohn, who served in that position in 1984-85. He died in 2007.

SC Elections:

Greenville News: House District 5 candidates differ on solution to roads problem

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/05/16/house-district-5-candidates-differ-solution-roads-problem/84439476/>

Ron Barnett

The two candidates in the Republican Primary for House District 5 agree that roads is the No. 1 issue facing the state. Where they part ways is on what needs to be done to fix the problem. Neal Collins, the first-term incumbent in the seat representing the Easley area, says an increase in the "gas user fee" is part of the solution, which he believes could be offset by cuts in the state income tax. Challenger Rick Tate argues that the only problem is the governance of state Department of Transportation and that past proposals to lower income taxes while raising the gas tax wouldn't help those least able to afford to spend more at the pumps.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: S.C. youngsters compete for Scripps Spelling Bee title

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1603/160529594>

Emma Dumain

All five South Carolina contestants in the Scripps National Spelling Bee will advance to the third round of the annual competition on Wednesday afternoon. Among those representing the Palmetto State is Landon Ethredge, a seventh grader at Advanced Studies Magnet in West Ashley who is being sponsored by The Post and Courier. Ethredge, 13, approached the microphone in a tucked-in, blue oxford shirt and khakis. With his hands in his pockets, he rolled his eyes upwards as he spelled out his word slowly, one letter at a time: D-I-G-I-T-A-L-I-S, digitalis, or the genus of about 20 species of plants known as foxgloves.

Greenville News: National Hurricane Center issues statement on Atlantic system

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/25/national-hurricane-center-issues-statement-south-carolina/84920108/>

Romando Dixson

The National Hurricane Center on Wednesday issued a tropical weather outlook for the North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico. A system could impact the South Carolina coast. There is a 10 percent chance of cyclone formation in the next two days and a 50 percent chance in the next five days. The Atlantic hurricane season is June 1-Nov. 30. The South Carolina coast is expected to be a popular destination during Memorial Day weekend.

Local News:

Associated Press: Business slice: Golf cart ban this weekend in Myrtle Beach

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HoA2BdRi

SC State Wire

A ban on golf carts on the streets in some parts of Myrtle Beach will be in effect during the upcoming holiday weekend, a move one rental company says will take a big slice out of business. Local media outlets report the carts are banned from a busy section of Ocean Boulevard along the shorefront Ben Robinson rents golf carts and says he will lose \$80,000 this weekend because of the restriction.

Sun News: Ocean Boulevard golf cart ban to stay in place

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/business/article79637972.html>

Emily Weaver

One golf cart and mo-peds rental shop owner pleaded with the city to rethink a recent directive that bans golf carts from a large portion of Ocean Boulevard during the Memorial Day weekend, saying the 11th-hour action would cost him about \$80,000 in business. But the council was evenly split on whether or not to direct City Manager John Pedersen to change the directive he issued over the weekend. Without a majority of support to change the order, Pedersen said the decision would stay, but added it was a very hard decision to make.

The Herald: This time, Rock Hill may have votes to stop smoking in parks

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article79589937.html>

Bristow Marchant

Smokers thought it was safe to take a pack to the park after the Rock Hill City Council deadlocked last year on efforts to ban puffing in city-run parks. But now the issue could get a second hearing. Councilwoman Kathy Pender said she wants a smoking ban proposal brought up for a vote by the council, meaning the city could take the first action to snuff out smoking as early as next month. And this time, the motion may have the votes to pass. Pender requested the issue come back up for a vote at Monday's council meeting, after receiving complaints from residents about smoking at sporting events in city parks.

The State: Quiet Batesburg-Leesville home to hidden stress, study says

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article79725927.html>

Tim Flach

To paraphrase a song from the 1950s play "The Music Man," they've got trouble with a capital S in the home of the South Carolina Poultry Festival. That's S as in "stress" instead of "sin," affecting Batesburg-Leesville, a study suggests. Analysts at online career service Zippia rank the quiet town of 5,400 residents on the west edge of Lexington County as the seventh-most-stressful community in the state – tops in the Midlands. The study considers any commute to work of longer than 30 minutes a hassle, a drive Mayor Rita Crapps agrees is common for many residents who work around the Columbia area.

Post and Courier: More Boeing workers arrested on tax-fraud charges

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC16/160529577>

Dave Munday

Another 17 Boeing workers have been arrested on state tax-fraud charges. The arrests bring the total of arrests to 30 since last month. The workers filed fraudulent W-4 forms, claiming to be exempt from state income taxes when they were not and then failed to file tax returns, according to the S.C. Department of Revenue. Generally, workers can only claim an exemption from state taxes if they were refunded all taxes that were withheld during the previous year and expect to owe no current taxes.

Herald-Journal: 'Through Our Eyes' project captures images of homelessness, hope

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160525/articles/160529773>

Alyssa Mulliger

Jason Williamson said he felt overwhelming emotion Wednesday while looking through more than 600 photographs that captured the faces and day-to-day experiences of homelessness in Spartanburg. While some of the photographs show poor living conditions and blighted areas, many feature bright smiles and places of support, like a local soup kitchen and shelter. "As I flipped through the photos for the first time, I definitely stopped and thought hard about them," Williamson said. "There are some that are very emotional, and you get misty-eyed looking at them. You see how much things mean to other people."

National News:

Associated Press: Clinton faulted on emails by State Department audit

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e9cf125b8af1417a8cdd0b3526a1ce9e>

Michael Biesecker and Bradley Klapper

Hillary Clinton and her team ignored clear guidance from the State Department that her email setup broke federal standards and could leave sensitive material vulnerable to hackers, an independent audit has found. Her aides twice brushed aside concerns, in one case telling technical staff "the matter was not to be discussed further." The inspector general's review also revealed that hacking attempts forced then-Secretary of State Clinton off email at one point in 2011, though she insists the personal server she used was never breached. Clinton and several of her senior staff declined to be interviewed for the State Department investigation.

Associated Press: Anaheim police: Anti-Trump violence will not be tolerated

<http://bigstory.ap.org/72fd6041925441b996c1f7ff8044a077>

Jill Colvin and Amy Taxin

Police in California issued a firm warning to protesters Wednesday that violence would not be tolerated ahead of Donald Trump's scheduled rally following clashes between anti-Trump protesters and police in New Mexico a day earlier. "While we recognize and respect the First Amendment rights of all individuals to express their viewpoints and protest peacefully, we will not tolerate violence or disobedience of the law during the upcoming rally," Anaheim Police Chief Raul Quezada said in a statement. "Everyone has the right to participate without fear of violence or disorder, and we are prepared to take swift and decisive enforcement action should it become necessary," Quezada said.

Associated Press: CEO pay climbs again, even as their stock prices don't

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3ecc98d4f30b41818d8e8ae032095f42>

Stan Choe

CEOs at the biggest companies got a 4.5 percent pay raise last year. That's almost double the typical American worker's, and a lot more than investors earned from owning their stocks — a big fat zero. The typical chief executive in the Standard & Poor's 500 index made \$10.8 million, including bonuses, stock awards and other compensation, according to a study by executive data firm Equilar for The Associated Press. That's up from the median of \$10.3 million the same group of CEOs made a year earlier.

World News:

Associated Press: Ukrainian pilot returns home as unrivalled national hero

<http://bigstory.ap.org/bb073f95efaa4446ba9274c8b23ef824>

Nataliya Vasily

When war broke out in eastern Ukraine, pilot Nadezhda Savchenko left her hometown to join the fight against Russia-backed separatists. Nearly two years after she was captured, then tried and convicted in Russia, she returned home to a rapturous welcome in Kiev. Over the past two years, Savchenko became both Ukraine's national hero and Russia's best-known prisoner. Western leaders and

diplomats including President Barack Obama called for her release, graffiti supporting her sprouted up and children made drawings romanticizing her image.

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