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Subject: New Governor, Nuclear Industry, and DJJ -- Update from Sen. Tom Young -- January 24 to January 30, 2017

New Governor, Nuclear Industry, and DJJ -- Update from Senator Tom Young -- January 24 to January 30, 2017

The legislature is back in session in Columbia on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from now until mid May. I hope that you find this update helpful and informative. If I can help you with an issue, please let me know. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the South Carolina State Senate.

State Government News

Governor Haley to the United Nations: Last Tuesday afternoon, the United States Senate confirmed Governor Haley to be the next U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. Soon after, she resigned as Governor of South Carolina to accept the position.

Welcome Governor McMaster! After Governor Haley's departure to the United Nations, Lt. Governor McMaster was sworn in as our state's 117th governor.

Lt. Governor Bryant: Early Wednesday afternoon, the State Senate elected Senator Kevin Bryant as the President Pro Tempore of the Senate after Senator Hugh Leatherman resigned as President Pro Tempore on Tuesday afternoon. With his election as President Pro Tempore, Senator Bryant was sworn in as Lt. Governor moments later.

Senate's President Pro Tempore Election : After Senator Bryant became Lt. Governor, Senator Hugh Leatherman and Senator Harvey Peeler sought the Senate President Pro Tempore position. Senator Leatherman won by a vote of 28-16 with one abstention. I voted for Senator Peeler.

Representative Chris Corley : Last Tuesday, Rep. Chris Corley, from House District 84 in Aiken County, resigned his seat. A special election will be held on May 30. To see the news story, go [here](#).

Moped Bill: On Thursday, the full Senate passed the moped bill by a vote of 39-0. The bill requires requires drivers under 21 to wear a helmet; prohibits anyone under the age of 17 from driving a moped at night unless accompanied by an adult with a

least year of driving experience; and prohibits someone from driving a moped while intoxicated in violation of state laws as to operating motor vehicles. The bill should head to the House of Representatives this week.

Nuclear Industry in South Carolina : Last Thursday, leaders from South Carolina's public utilities and SRS senior executives jointly presented information as to the nuclear industry in South Carolina. South Carolina's leadership in nuclear energy and the economic impact of SRS were covered. In addition, Savannah River National Lab detailed how it is leading innovation for national security and clean energy. To see materials from SCE&G, go [here](#); from Duke Energy, go [here](#); from SRNS, go [here](#); from SRNL, go [here](#); from SRR, go [here](#); from CNTA, go [here](#); and from USC's Nuclear Engineering Department, go [here](#).

SCDOT Road Project Link : SCDOT has created an interactive map to allow citizens to see the road and bridge projects going on around the state. To view it, go [here](#).

Department of Juvenile Justice: Last Thursday, a very critical Legislative Audit Council report was released as to DJJ. On Friday, the agency's Director Sylvia Murray resigned. Governor McMaster will nominate a successor. To see the audit report, go [here](#).

State Government Resources : Several online resources are available to you for learning more about our State Government. These resources include the following websites which can be accessed as follows: General Assembly's website -- go [here](#); Executive Budget Office -- go [here](#); State Library -- go [here](#); Legislative Audit Council -- go [here](#); Governor's Office -- go [here](#); and State Fiscal Transparency information, go [here](#).

Aiken County Legislative Delegation : The local legislative delegation office is staffed by the delegation secretary Jeannie Cadden in the Aiken County Government Building on University Parkway. Ms. Cadden works on both Aiken County and Edgefield County legislative and constituent matters. One of the services provided by our local delegation office is the processing of paperwork associated with becoming a notary public. If you need help with this or other matters, let me know by responding to this email or call Jeannie in the delegation office at [642-1694](tel:642-1694).

Legislative Outlook Column : To see the column that I wrote for the local Aiken and North Augusta papers last week, go [here](#).

State's Economic Outlook : To see the latest economic outlook from the Dept. of Commerce, go [here](#).

DOE National Laboratories : The Department of Energy (DOE) has 17 world-class National Laboratories including one at the Savannah River Site. To learn more about the DOE National Laboratory System and its role in advancing the frontiers of science and technology, go [here](#).

Congratulations to the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce Award Winners! : Congratulations to this year's award winners from the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce as follows: Man of the Year: Skipper Perry; Woman of the Year: Peggy Ford; Large Business of the Year: Chik Fil A ; Small Business of the Year: Aiken Pest Control.

Exhibit - USC Aiken - "The Bill of Rights and You :" Currently at USC Aiken's Gregg-Graniteville Library, this exhibit from the National Archives commemorates the 225th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights. Explore the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, collectively known as the Bill of Rights, and learn how Americans have exercised those rights. The exhibit is presented in part by AT&T Seedlings Foundation, the National Archives Foundation, and the S.C. Humanities Council. It is free and open to the public.

Jarrett Rifles -- Jackson, SC : A recent article in *Palmetto Magazine* highlighted the work being done at Jarrett Rifles right outside Jackson, SC in our Senate District. To see the article, go [here](#).

Whiskey Road Corridor Survey: If you live in or near our Senate District and travel on Whiskey Road, please consider sharing your thoughts with this 5 minute survey on Whiskey Road which can be seen [here](#).

Immunization Schedule for Adults and Children : Staying on top of immunizations is important to your health. To see the recommended immunization schedule for adults, go [here](#). To see the recommended immunization schedule for children, go [here](#).

Aiken County Veterans Affairs Officer : Major Dwight Bradham is the Aiken County Veterans Affairs Officer. He and his team are doing a great job for our veterans in Aiken County! He can be reached at [642-1545](tel:642-1545) by phone and at dbradham@aikencountysc.gov by email. If you have any veteran-related issue, please call the office for assistance. You can follow that office on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/AikenVA](https://www.facebook.com/AikenVA) and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/VA_Aiken.

Congressman Wilson's Local Office -- Veteran Assistance : Congressman Wilson can also assist veterans. The local number to the Aiken County office is [\(803\) 642-6416](tel:803-642-6416).

Habitat for Humanity : A search is ongoing for a new director of Aiken County Habitat for Humanity. To learn more, go [here](#).

Walter Edgar's Journal: If you are interested in the history, culture, and arts of South Carolina, consider listening to Walter Edgar's Journal which airs at noon on Fridays and Sundays at 4 p.m. on South Carolina public radio. To learn more, go [here](#).

SRS Heritage Foundation : To see the latest and past newsletters for the SRS Heritage Foundation, go [here](#). Many residents in Senate District 24 are current or former employees of companies located at SRS.

SRS Public Tours: Public tours of SRS are available. They are from 12:30 to 4:30

and are first come, first served basis with up to 50 people per tour. Participants must be at least 18 years old and U.S. citizens. To register for a tour, visit www.srs.gov/general/tour/public.htm or call 803-952-9472. More information can be obtained about SRS and the tour program at www.srs.gov.

Silver Bluff Audubon Center and Sanctuary : This 3,250 acre property is located 5 miles Northwest of Jackson in Aiken County along the Savannah River. The property includes numerous Carolina bays, walking trails, and a wide variety of wildlife including 217 bird species such as Bald Eagles, Wood Storks, Cooper's Hawks, and Red-headed Woodpeckers. In addition, a 120 acre area is on the National Register of Historic Sites as the location of George Galphin's Trading post operated from 1750 until the end of the Revolutionary War. To learn more and how to visit, go [here](#).

Cardiac Arrest : Recently, a friend sent me a link to this [website](#) with a step by step instruction of how to react in a cardiac arrest situation. Please take a few minutes to review it.

SC Help – Primary Residence Foreclosure Avoidance Assistance : Several Aiken County residents have received assistance under a federal program instituted in 2011 in several states including South Carolina providing one time assistance to homeowners who risk foreclosure. The program loans up to \$36,000 in one time aid to homeowners who have fallen behind on mortgage payments for a variety of reasons. Acceptable causes include: unemployment, underemployment, a sharp reduction in self-employment income, a divorce, death of a spouse, unexpected medical bills from a catastrophic illness or injury, or damages stemming from the October 2015 floods. The home involved must be the applicant's primary residence and there is a cap on the size of the original mortgage loan amount. The money is collected back from the homeowner after the homeowner is back on his or her feet. To learn more or to apply, go online [here](#) or call 1-855-435-7472.

Foster Parent Recruitment : In March, Governor Haley, DSS officials, and foster parents launched a new statewide effort to find more families willing to foster parents for children in need. To learn more, go [here](#).

FTC website: The Federal Trade Commission website has helpful information for consumers on a number of topics. To see it, go [here](#).

Senate Fundraising Information

Donate to Tom Young for Senate : Several people have asked about donating to my State Senate Campaign Fund. If you have not done so and would like to donate to my Senate campaign fund, please go [here](#). Donations can be accepted in any amount up to \$1,000.00 per donor per election cycle. Thank you!

Facebook : If you are on Facebook, I have a Facebook page for Senator Tom Young. During the week, I post information from the Senate or elsewhere around the District, State, and County. If you are interested, please "like" the page to receive updates during the week from me on Facebook.

Other Topics of Interest

Faith Magazine article : A *Faith Magazine* article about my public service and faith can be seen [here](#).

SRS Retiree Association – Retiree Resource Center Help : The SRS Retiree Association has established a SRS Retiree Resource Center in Aiken. To learn more about what services this office can provide, go [here](#).

Research Charities in South Carolina : Charitable donors may research organizations registered in South Carolina by visiting the Secretary of State's website [here](#). You may learn a charity's total revenue, program expenses, total expenses, net assets, and fundraiser costs. You can also call the Division of Public Charities at 1-888-CHARITI (242-7484) for more information.

Unclaimed Property -- Money for You? : The State Treasurer's Office maintains a link for residents to search for unclaimed property. Examples of unclaimed property include dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks (including paychecks), unclaimed insurance proceeds, forgotten utility deposits, uncashed dividend checks and unexchanged shares of stock. Some local residents have recently found unclaimed money belonging to them on this website. To learn more, go [here](#).

Medication Assistance Program : The LSCOG (Lower Savannah Council of Governments) partnering with local physicians and the United Way, has an ongoing free program to assist lower income Aiken County residents with obtaining medications. Participation is generally limited to those families with no prescription insurance and total household income of less than 150% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. To learn more, call 1-866-845-1550, ext. 6 or go [here](#) and scroll down to Medication Assistance Program.

Nonprofits and Raffles : Since last April, nonprofits may legally conduct raffles in South Carolina to raise funds for their charitable purposes. For the new law, the Secretary of State created a frequently asked questions list which can be seen [here](#). If you have more questions, please call the Charities Division of the Secretary of State at (803) 734-1790.

Cardiac Arrest : For a step by step instruction of how to react in a cardiac arrest situation, go to www.heartrescuenow.com.

Special Needs Children – Help for Parents and Caregivers : The South Carolina Bar developed a handbook for parents of special needs children. An online version of the handbook is available [here](#).

Teens and Texting : Texting while driving amongst younger drivers remains a problem. The State of South Carolina's anti-texting law went into effect on December 7, 2014. There is an anti-texting app which parents can use to keep their teen from texting while driving. To learn more, go [here](#).

Constituent Information

Legislative Email Updates : Locally, two members of the House of Representatives,

who represent portions of Aiken County within Senate District 24, send regular email updates. Their respective contact information to get on their email lists to receive their email updates are as follows:

- Rep. Bill Hixon (Dist. 83): bill@billhixon.com
- Rep. Bill Taylor (Dist. 86): bill@taylorscheuse.com

Congressman Joe Wilson Contact Information : Congressman Wilson represents all of Aiken County. He has staff in Aiken County with office hours in Aiken and in North Augusta. His office number is [642-6416](tel:642-6416).

Speaking with Groups Around the District : If you are involved with a local group that would like for me to attend a meeting to provide a legislative update, please let me know.

Report Waste, Fraud and Abuse in State Government : To report waste, fraud and abuse in state government, you can call: [1-855-SC-FRAUD](tel:1-855-SC-FRAUD).

Tom Young's Website : My website can be reached at <http://www.senatortomyoung.com>. There are links to a variety of constituent services; the status of sponsored bills; and roll call votes. Please add my web site as a bookmark on your computer.

Small Business Help – SC Dept. of Commerce : The South Carolina Department of Commerce has helpful information for small business owners and employees. To learn more, go [here](#).

Save for College - Future Scholar 529 College Savings Plan : South Carolina's 529 College Savings Plan Future Scholar offers special tax benefits for South Carolina residents. To learn more or to enroll, go [here](#).

Donate Life : You can register as an organ, eye, and tissue donor through the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles or [here](#).

Child Passenger Safety : To learn more about ways to keep your children or grandchildren safe in your car, go [here](#). The information at this link is provided in part by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety.

Request a Flag : If you would like to request a state or U.S. flag flown over the State Capitol in Columbia, please let me know at tom@senatortomyoung.com. Flags vary in cost according to their size and their material from which they are made.

State House Tours : Tours are available for the S.C. State House by calling [\(803\) 734-2430](tel:803-734-2430) or by going [here](#). If you set a tour between January and June and it is on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, please let me know so I can do my best to see you. The State House is open on Saturdays for guided and unguided tours from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

SRS Tours : Tours for SRS during 2017 are available now. To register, go [here](#). If you experience problems registering online, call [\(803\) 952-8994](tel:803-952-8994).

South Carolina Tourism : To learn more about tourist attractions and tourism opportunities in South Carolina, go [here](#).

Thoroughbred Country-- South Carolina Regional Tourism Organization : To learn more about tourism in the four county region of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, and Barnwell, go [here](#).

SC BBQ Trail: According to the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, our state is the birthplace of barbecue in the United States and is the only state that offers all four official barbecue sauces. To see the official map with more than 200 restaurant listings, go [here](#). Another helpful site can be seen [here](#).

Aiken County Tourism : To learn more about tourism options in Aiken County, go [here](#).

Email Updates : If you know of people in or around District 24 who do not receive my updates but they would like to get them, please email their names and email addresses to me.

Road Issues : If you see a road problem such as a pothole needing repair, call the SCDOT at [641-7665](tel:641-7665) or Aiken County at [642-1532](tel:642-1532) to report the problem. You may also report the repair request online [here](#). If you do not get a prompt response, please let me know at tom@senatortomyoung.com or call me. Generally, most paved roads in the County are maintained by SCDOT and are identified on the road sign poles by a small black and white sign listing the road number, such as S-2-1669. Most unpaved roads in the County are maintained by the County.

Thank you for the opportunity and the honor to represent you. Please let me know if I can help you in any way or if you have questions about these or other issues. Your feedback is meaningful and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom Young
649-0000 (o)
215-3631 (cell)

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