

Title: **Task force: Domestic violence problems in SC may be worse**  
 Author: By JEFFREY COLLINS The Associated Press  
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# Task force: Domestic violence problems in SC may be worse

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 The Associated Press

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nitely say how many domestic violence cases are successfully prosecuted in the state because of limitations to court records, about half of schools don't have any domestic violence education and while there are services available for domestic violence victims, the providers sometimes don't coordinate.

The information stunned Gov. Nikki Haley, who brought together the 136 people across a broad range of law enforcement

and social services. She said it emphasized why stopping domestic violence is one of her top priorities in her second term and it will take a change in culture as much as changes in laws.

"It's a silent crime that continues to go on because people aren't comfortable talking about it," Haley said.

The problems in data collection start with the officer responding to a domestic violence call. The incident reports they fill out can introduce faulty data when crimes aren't reported as

domestic violence or sections of the report about the relationship between the suspect and victim are not filled out, said Corrections Department researcher Charles Bradberry, who reviewed the system.

The task force found that only half of the agencies required officers to speak to children who are at domestic violence calls and only about one in eight had officers check to see if victims might have been strangled, which advocates said is often a gateway to extreme violence.

## INCONSISTENT REPORTING

The task force found that less than half of police departments use checklists for officers on domestic violence calls, which can mean they forget to take important steps such as ask for cellphones or take pictures of injuries.



Title: **Cabinet directors' salaries increasing**  
 Author: Associated Press  
 Size: 31.62 square inch  
 Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494

# Cabinet directors' salaries increasing

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Five of Gov. Nikki Haley's Cabinet directors will collectively see their salaries increase by about \$62,000, as per the Republican governor's recommendations.

The Agency Head Salary Commission on Tuesday set salaries for six of Haley's appointees who were confirmed by the Senate this year. Only the salary for the Department of Revenue's director remains unchanged at \$153,000. Rick Reames, confirmed in March, had been acting director since last July.

The approved increases range from less than \$4,300 to nearly \$27,000. Each followed Haley's recommendation letters to the panel. None gave any specific rationale.

The last paragraph of each said the director is "well suited for the position, and the salary request is in line with" her or his

"experience and demonstrated qualifications."

She told The Associated Press she leaves such decisions to the agency.

"There is one thing I don't get involved in, and it's that," she said.

The following salaries take effect immediately:

■ \$159,130 to Medicaid director Christian Soura, an increase of \$4,251.

■ \$159,130 to Susan Alford, director of the Department of Social Services, an increase of \$4,251.

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■ \$124,973 to Richele Taylor, director of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, an increase of \$17,328.

■ \$124,676 to Jerry Adger, director of the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, an increase of \$26,556.

The commission also approved the salary range for

new positions created by last year's government restructuring law, which was seen as a huge victory for Haley.

The law divided the duties of the Budget and Control Board, which will officially cease to exist July 1. Its director, Marcia Adams, currently makes nearly \$193,000. Most of that agency's duties will transfer to the new, Cabinet-level Department of Administration, which Adams will also lead.

Other duties transfer to the new State Fiscal Accountability Authority.

Adam's new salary will range between \$185,500 and \$287,500. The authority director's salary will range between \$166,100 and \$257,500, according to ranges recommended by the salary panel's outside consulting

firm.

Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman, the panel's chairman, noted the state's supposed to be saving money through the restructuring bill.

Haley must recommend a salary within the approved ranges. Being in charge of fewer people doesn't necessarily mean a director should make less money, she said. She said it's about responsibilities.

"When you look at a director, especially the Department of Administration, you're looking at an agency where we haven't seen all that it is going to do yet. I hope it takes on a lot of responsibilities. I hope they really see this as taking all the back office procedures of the agencies so they can focus on their missions," Haley said.

Title: **Domestic violence task force finds problem might be worse**  
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 Size: 42.78 square inch  
 Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494



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**NIKKI  
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A prime example of the prob-

lem is Richland County, which in 2012 had the state's highest crime rate, but its domestic violence rate was 41st out of 46 counties. That doesn't make sense, Bradberry said.

Other counties showed wide fluctuations. Some counties with similar demographics were on opposite ends of the rankings. And a place like Greenwood County, where the sheriff's office and prosecutors have made fighting domestic violence a priority, is at the top of the rankings because they worked hard to make sure they get the full scope of the problem, Corrections Department Director Bryan Stirling said.

"We could be worse than is being reported. Until you have uniformity, it is hard to measure something," said Stirling, who was in charge of the criminal justice part of the task force.

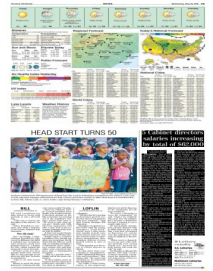
The task force found that less than half of police departments use checklists for officers on domestic violence calls, which can mean they forget to take important steps like ask for cell-

phones or take pictures of injuries, according to surveys sent to all police agencies in the state. About half of them answered the questions, including the sheriff's offices in all 46 counties.

Only half of the agencies required officers to speak to children who are at domestic violence calls and only about one in eight had officers check to see if victims might have been strangled, which advocates said is often a gateway to extreme violence.

And when cases do get into court, it's hard to see what happens next. About 62 percent of all first-offense criminal domestic violence cases end with not guilty verdicts, but it is impossible to know if they are found not guilty, accepted a plea bargain or the charges were dropped because South Carolina's case management system only lists the final charge, not the defendant's initial charge, said Sara Barber, executive director of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Title: **5 Cabinet directors' salaries increasing by total of \$62,000**  
 Author: By Seanna Adcox Associated Press  
 Size: 29.45 square inch  
 Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



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By SEANNA ADCOX  
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Title: **Task force: S.C. domestic violence may be worse than reported**  
 Author: By Jeffrey Collins AssociatedPress  
 Size: 35.96 square inch  
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## Review finds flaws with police agency policies, reporting inconsistencies

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Title: **Senaterestrictsabortionstogettoroad-repairbill**

Author: ByCassie Cope andAndrewShain ccope@thestate.com ashain@thestate.com

Size: 63.55 square inch

Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



# Senate restricts abortions to get to road-repair bill

**Passes legislation  
barring procedure  
after 20 weeks**

BY CASSIE COPE  
AND ANDREW SHAIN  
ccope@thestate.com  
ashain@thestate.com

**COLUMBIA** The S.C. Senate is a step closer to debating a proposal to raise money to fix the state's crumbling roads after passing a ban Tuesday on abortions at 20 weeks of pregnancy.

"The number of days are ticking away rather quickly," said state Sen. Larry Grooms, R-Berkeley, who expects debate on a road-repair bill to start as early as Thursday.

With only eight legislative days left in the session, the road-repair bill was trapped behind the abortion bill on the Senate's calendar until Tuesday.

Getting to the roads bill required that the Senate act on the abortion-restriction proposal. And, after days of threatened filibusters, the Senate finally acted, passing a bill that would bar abortions at the 20th week of pregnancy with exceptions for the life of the mother, and cases of rape, incest or severe fetal anomaly.

The action came as both abortion opponents and road-repair supporters urged the Senate to act.

A coalition of business leaders filled the Statehouse lobby Tuesday, urging lawmakers to pass a road-repair bill.

"Failure to act now is an indicator that this government is broken,"

said Cathy Novinger, director of the Palmetto Agribusiness Council. "It

would be broken just like our roads and bridges are broken."

Most of the nearly 30 groups represented at the pro-roads bill news conference — including AAA Carolinas, the S.C. Chamber of Commerce and S.C. Trucking Association — are urging legislators to increase the state's 16.75-cents-a-gallon gas tax to help pay for road repairs. That gas tax, the third lowest in the nation, has not been increased since 1987.

"You use the roads, you pay for the roads," said Eric Dickey, chairman of the S.C. Alliance to Fix Our Roads.

Road repair costs only will rise if the state delays acting, Novinger said.

S.C. Chamber of Commerce chief executive Ted Pitts, a former House member and chief of staff to Gov. Nikki Haley, said the state's business community is united on the need to repair the state's roads. "I'm calling on the South Carolina Senate ... take the time that's required to get through your calendar and deal with infrastructure funding."

The House passed its roads proposal in January 87-20, a large enough majority to override a promised veto from Haley, who wants a big income tax cut to sign off on a gas tax hike.

The House proposal would raise roughly \$427 million a year for

roads by increasing the gas tax by the equivalent of 10 cents a gallon. That plan would cut income taxes by up to \$50 million.

The Senate Finance Committee's roads plan would raise roughly \$800 million for roads by increasing the gas tax by 12 cents a gallon as well as driver's license fees and other taxes related to driving a vehicle. However, roughly 20 Senate Republicans plan to amend that proposal to cut state income taxes by \$700 million a year and give more control of the Transportation Department to the governor.

Without those additions, the roads bill will die, Sen. Grooms said.

"What's before us is just a straight-up tax increase," the Berkeley Republican said of the Senate Finance Committee proposal.

The Senate abortion bill passed Tuesday also faces a fight.

The bill includes exceptions to the 20-week ban that are not part of a bill passed by the S.C. House, setting up a fight in House-Senate conference committee. The proposals would affect less than 30 abortions a year performed in South Carolina, according to state data.

Grooms originally authored an abortion bill that included no exceptions, except for the life of the mother, to the 20-week ban. But he said Tuesday that he would accept a

SEE **BILL**, PAGE 7A

## BILL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3A

bill with exceptions for rape, incest or severe fetal anomaly to win a 20-week ban.

"This was a victory for the rights of the unborn," he

said.

Other Republican senators, who make a majority of the Senate, disputed that statement.

### 'Pro-life state'

Sen. Lee Bright, a Spar-

tanburg Republican who vowed to filibuster the bill if it included any exceptions, said senators caved into pressure from S.C. Citizens for Life, which wanted the proposal to move forward.

Bright said pro-life

groups think they will be able to win passage of an abortion bill that includes no exceptions.

"This is on their backs now."

Efforts to reach the president at S.C. Citizens for Life

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were unsuccessful Tuesday.

However, Palmetto Family Council president Oran Smith, who worked with anti-abortion groups on the bill, noted time was running out in the legislative session, which ends June 4. "We need to take what we can get," Smith said. Still, abortion opponents will take a close look at the exception language in the Senate bill, he added.

A final vote on the Senate bill is expected Wednesday.

Bright tried to convince lawmakers they should not allow any exceptions. He filibustered the bill last week and, on Tuesday, brought to a Statehouse news conference women who said they either were conceived during a rape or impregnated by rapists.

"This is a pro-life state," Bright said at the news conference.

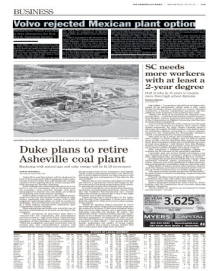
"If these babies aren't allowed to survive, then these politicians shouldn't survive their re-elections."



TRACY GLANTZ - tglantz@thestate.com

**Ted Pitts, president and CEO of South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, speaks during a news conference at the Statehouse.**

Title: **Volvo rejected Mexican plant option**  
 Author: The State and Associated Press  
 Size: 25.73 square inch  
 Greenville, SC Circulation: 113473



# Volvo rejected Mexican plant option

Samuelsson: South Carolina  
is best alternative for first  
North American factory

The State and Associated Press

**COLUMBIA** — Shortly before Gov. Nikki Haley and her top economic official flew to meet the chief executive of South Carolina's newest automaker Monday, Volvo's boss revealed that Mexico was in the mix for the plant that drove into Berkeley County last week.

At least eight automakers in the past two years have opened or announced new plants or expansions in Mexico, which offers lower labor costs and fewer tariffs.

"I think we looked at all alternatives," Volvo Cars CEO Hakan Samuelsson told CNBC Monday. "But it's also (a) very important factor (that) we have been in (the) U.S. for 60 years. It's a market we believe in. And we have ambitious plans for this market."

A site near Savannah also was a finalist for the \$500 million plant expected to hire up to 4,000 workers by 2030.

A week after landing the Volvo plant, Haley's office said the governor and state Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt had lunch with Samuelsson at the Swedish ambassador's home in Washington.

The governor's office says Haley likes to make sure she has a strong relationship with the leaders of any company that chooses to locate in South Carolina.

State and local agencies offered \$209 million in announced incentives that is expected to grow with the price of lower county taxes and worker training provided at technical colleges.

Samuelsson said South Carolina was the best alternative for Volvo's first

North American plant, which will begin producing vehicles by 2018. "There are various factors: logistics, availability of skilled labor; and we needed a port nearby," he told CNBC.

Volvo is trying to gain traction in the United States, where its sales slid last year amid growth across the industry. Volvo has not said which cars it will make in South Carolina, but Samuelsson said the Berkeley County plant will not make vehicles for the Swedish automaker's Chinese-based parent, Geely.

Despite being bought by Geely from Ford in 2010, Samuelsson said: "Volvo is more Volvo today than earlier, and we are more Scandinavian than we were earlier."





Title: **List 17 legislators by name**

Author:

Size: 3.25 square inch

Greenville, SC Circulation: 113473

### **List 17 legislators by name**

In keeping with Gov. Nikki Haley's listing legislators according to their loyalty to her agenda, perhaps billboards at S.C. borders should state: "These roads are brought to you by Governor Haley and her 17 legislators," and then list all 17 by name.

**Don Lineback**  
*Greenville*

Title: **State deserves leaders who listen to their needs**  
Author:  
Size: 11.78 square inch  
Greenville, SC Circulation: 113473



## LETTERS

### **State deserves leaders who listen to their needs**

An interesting poll in South Carolina would be to ask what is the most important issue our state government is facing and an open-ended question of what do our legislators do to earn their free meals, travel expenses and salary? My guess is the answer to the first question would be repairing our roads and bridges, and if that is a correct guess, the answer to the second question would be "nothing," based on the lack of progress this year.

If we play the blame game, we just fit into the high school antics of Gov. Nikki "Facebook" Haley and the "don't ask me to make a decision" legislators.

The losers are all state residents and anyone from out of state that dares to travel on South Carolina roads. Will it take a major bridge collapse and the tragedy and mega-millions in lawsuits that it would bring before our elected officials put their petty antics aside and do the right thing?

South Carolina residents deserve a governor, senators and representatives that listen, understand what the important issues are and take care of business we hire them to do. The question is whether there is anyone in the Capitol and its chambers that fits that description.

**Andy Sullivan**  
*Honea Path*

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Title: **Haley, Hitt meet with Volvo CEO**

Author:

Size: 3.41 square inch

Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494

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### **Haley, Hitt meet with Volvo CEO**

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley and her top economic official went to Washington to will have Memorial Day ceremonies 3 p.m. Sunday at the Greenwood County Veterans Center.

A bell ringing service will be featured to honor departed veterans of Greenwood County. Each participant will receive a small American flag.