

From: Christians for Personhood <CP@spiritcom.net>

To:

Date: 6/5/2018 2:29:10 PM

Subject: Now Former SC Senator John Courson and Personhood:

ri600Christians for Personhood (CP)

Columbia, South Carolina

June 5, 2018

Now Former SC Senator John Courson and Personhood:

The State (Columbia, SC)

'Longtime Richland Sen. Courson resigns, enters guilty plea in corruption probe'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article212475519.html#storylink=mainstage>

June 04, 2018

COLUMBIA, SC

Veteran state Sen. John Courson, R-Richland, resigned from office Monday, pleaded guilty to one count of willful misconduct in office and agreed to cooperate with an ongoing investigation into public corruption at the S.C. State House.

Courson, a former Senate president pro tempore, became the fourth Republican legislator to resign and plead guilty as part of that investigation, led by special prosecutor David Pascoe and State Law Enforcement Division agents.

Courson's plea, announced Monday morning in a Richland County courtroom during a seven-minute hearing, brought an end to a 33-year Senate career. Courson's trial was about to start when the deal was announced to a crowded courtroom, full of SLED agents, lawyers, media and members of the public.

Courson, 73, could face a 10-year prison sentence. However, state Circuit Court Judge Carmen Mullen deferred sentencing until a later date. How much prison time, if any, Courson gets depends on how much he cooperates.

After the hearing, Courson - who had a reputation as one of the Senate's more courteous, accessible members - met with reporters, answering their questions.

"I accepted responsibility for an error that I've committed," Courson told reporters. He said he has been encouraged by expressions of support that he has received but added, "I agree that what I did was in error, and I apologize for that."

Pascoe said after Monday's hearing that Courson, who had entered into a "cooperation agreement," might be called before the state grand jury investigating State House corruption. The prosecutor declined to say if and when more indictments might be forthcoming.

continued... <http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article212475519.html>

[Remainder of report sent previously by text]

/// Comments - Re: John Courson and Personhood:

In April 1998, it was reported Senator Courson was one of SC legislators who signed pledge to support personhood legislation; however he never did actually sign on as a cosponsor of the personhood bill in 1998 (S1060 - http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess112_1997-1998/bills/1060.htm); nor did he ever cosponsor any other personhood bills in any of the other years personhood legislation was filed in SC Senate thereafter (2005-2018)

/// History of Personhood Legislation in South Carolina (1998 - 2016)
- <http://christianlifeandliberty.net/2016-11-12-History-of-Personhood-Legislation-in-South-Carolina-1998-2016.pdf>

/// Re: Senator Courson's two recorded votes on Personhood (2010 and 2016):
Senator Courson was suspended from SC Senate in March 2017 after being indicted. Prior to that time, there were two recorded Roll Call votes related to Personhood legislation: 1) Senator Bright's Recall Motion for S450 on April 13, 2010; and 2) Senator Massey's Motion for Special Order for S719 on May 11, 2016

/// 1) Senator Courson voted AGAINST April 13, 2010 Recall attempt to pull S450 out of Judiciary Comm

where it was blocked by former Senate Jud Comm Chair McConnell

- <http://christianlifeandliberty.net/2010-04-13-SC-Senate-Personhood-Bill-Recall-vote-April-13-2010.doc>

/// 2) Then, on May 11, 2016, Senator Courson voted FOR setting S719 for Special Order, after S719

had passed favorably out of Senate Jud Comm April 12 - SENATE JOURNAL 5/11/2016

- http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121_2015-2016/sj16/20160511.htm (search for 719)

/// This May 11, 2016 Special Order vote was first favorable act toward Personhood by Senator Courson

since he had reportedly pledged his support 18 years earlier in 1998. This vote was late in the Session,

and 2016 was re-election year for SC Senators ///

[End]

To unsubscribe, send "Unsubscribe" to:
Christians for Personhood