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Subject: Election Day and Veterans' Day -- Update from Sen. Tom Young -- October 24 to November 3, 2014

Election Day and Veterans Day -- Update from Sen. Tom Young -- October 24 to November 3, 2014

Election day is tomorrow and the State Senate is out of session until January 2015. One of my goals as your state senator is that you find this update helpful and informative. Your feedback is meaningful and appreciated. If I can help you with an issue, please let me know. Thank you for reading and for allowing me to serve our District!

Election Day Tomorrow : Please remember to vote tomorrow. The polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. You will need your photo identification to vote. If you do not have it, you can file a provisional ballot. To see the photo identification requirements and what to do if you have to file a provisional ballot, go [here](#).

Veterans' Day : Next Tuesday is Veterans' Day. Please join me in thanking our veterans for their service and sacrifices which allow us to enjoy the freedoms and security with which we are blessed in the United States. Also, remember to thank the families of those who have served in uniform especially the families of those who gave their lives for our nation. Ceremonies will be held at area schools and next Tuesday, November 11, at the Veterans' Parks in Aiken and North Augusta at 11:00 am. This year, I have been asked to be a speaker at the ceremony in Aiken. Last year, I attended the ceremony in North Augusta.

Governor Haley and Congressman Wilson in Aiken County : Last Friday, I attended the campaign bus stop for Governor Haley and Congressman Wilson in North Augusta. They also stopped in Aiken but I was unable to attend that bus stop due to a work conflict. Republican Lt. Governor candidate Henry McMaster was also with them.

State Government News

S.C. Education Lottery: Many people have asked me where the lottery money

goes. I have attached the most recent chart for where the money goes by fiscal year through the immediate past fiscal year of 2013-2014. The chart shows that the vast majority of the lottery money goes to provide scholarships for qualifying instate students at colleges and universities in the state. That report can be accessed [here](#).

Also, the Legislative Audit Council just released an audit report on the state's use of lottery proceeds which can be seen [here](#).

2014 Legislative Summary : The South Carolina Bar Association recently produced a summary of legislative activities for 2014. That summary can be seen [here](#). Thank you to the SC Bar Association for giving permission to me to provide this link in this newsletter.

Planning for 2015 Legislative Session : The 2015 legislative session convenes on the second Tuesday in January. I appreciate input from constituents on the issues facing our state and area including road and bridge infrastructure; ethics reform; tax reform; spending reform; K-12 education; the costs of higher education; health care; economic development; job growth; and the underfunded liabilities in our state's health insurance program for state retirees. Your input is welcome on any issue important to you. Please email me back; contact me by phone; or speak with me in person.

Aiken County Legislative Delegation Meeting : Next Monday, November 10, the Aiken County Legislative Delegation will meet at North Augusta City Hall at 5:00 pm. To learn more, call [642-1694](tel:642-1694) or email me at tom@senatortomyoung.com.

Ballot Questions -- November 4 Election

In addition to the election of individuals for U.S. Senate, Governor, etc. tomorrow, the following items will be on your ballot:

Penny Sales Tax Option for Aiken County School Construction : In June, legislation was passed allowing Aiken County voters to decide if they favor an additional 1 cent county wide sales tax to pay for new school buildings and renovations to existing school buildings. The sales tax cannot be collected on groceries; gasoline; prescription drugs; and other items exempt from state and local sales tax. It also requires that 10% of the revenue collected be applied annually to reduce the debt millage for property tax that goes to the Aiken County School District for capital and maintenance needs (not operations). This will reduce the "school bond debt" portion of the property tax on all properties -- residential, commercial, motor vehicles, and boats -- in the county. If approved, the sales tax will be collected for ten years. Voters will decide tomorrow.

Legalizing Non-Profit Raffles : Several people asked me over the past several months about the status of non-profits being able to legally hold raffles. The State Constitution prohibits raffles. Nevertheless, many non-profits wish to hold raffles as a way to raise funds. During this past legislative session, after several years of work, the Senate and the House passed legislation to change current South Carolina law that will allow schools, churches and other nonprofits to hold raffles. Voters will decide in tomorrow's election.

Adjutant General -- Appointed by Governor : South Carolina is the only state in the nation where the head of the National Guard (Adjutant General) is popularly elected. The General Assembly approved a proposed constitutional amendment for the Adjutant General to be appointed by the Governor from a pool of qualified military candidates rather than popularly elected. Current Adjutant General Bob Livingston and members of the National Guard support this proposal. Voters will decide tomorrow.

News of Local Interest

Interstate 20 Bridge over Savannah River : Recently, SCDOT officials met with Georgia DOT officials to discuss joint bridge projects between the two states including the I-20 Bridge over the Savannah River. Depending on funding availability, both states are looking at possible construction to begin some time in 2017. The South Carolina portion also will require widening I-20 from the Exit 1 on and off ramps toward the river.

Congratulations to the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce! : Last Thursday night, the Aiken Chamber of Commerce was named the large Chamber of the year by the Carolina's Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (CACCE). CACCE has 150 Chambers in South Carolina and North Carolina as members. The "large Chamber category" is for Chambers with a membership greater than 1,000 members. Congratulations to the Aiken Chamber, its leadership, and its members.

SRS Heritage Museum Opens : Last Monday, I attended the ribbon cutting for the SRS Heritage Museum in downtown Aiken. To see the story, go [here](#). To see the latest newsletter for the SRS Heritage Foundation, go [here](#). Many residents in Senate District 24 are current or former employees of companies located at SRS.

Volunteer in Local Schools: If you would like to help with educating our children, consider volunteering in our local schools. To learn more, go [here](#). Thank you to the Aiken Downtown Rotary Club for putting together this list of opportunities.

Credit Monitoring Update -- SC Taxpayers

Year 2012 Cyber Attack Update : Currently, the State is providing identity protection services for South Carolina taxpayers affected by the October 2012 data breach of state computers if the taxpayer enrolls for the services. The State had a one year contract with CSID and has entered a contract for a second year with three remaining optional renewal terms of one year each. The first year of contract services with CSID began October 24, 2013. The General Assembly appropriated a second year of protection in the budget in June, so the second year of protection services began on October 24, 2014. Those taxpayers that enrolled with the free services through CSID during the first year will be automatically enrolled for the second year, and those who are not enrolled but wish to do so may enroll at any time. (See below for how to do that.) Services for participants in the forthcoming second year of service will end on October 31, 2015.

How do I enroll? : Individual taxpayers, their dependents, and businesses who filed

electronic tax returns between 1998 and 2012 are eligible for the services offered through CSID and may enroll online at: www.scidprotection.com or by calling: 855-880-2743.

Who is CSID? : CSID is a Texas based company which not only offers credit monitoring, but also provides identify monitoring solutions along with full service identity theft restoration services.

What If I Purchase My Own Credit and/or Identity Protection? : If you choose to purchase your own protection service, you can deduct a portion of that cost from your state income taxes. The deduction is based on the actual cost of services, but is capped at \$300 for an individual taxpayer and \$1,000 for a joint return or a return claiming dependents.

Other News of Interest

Faith Magazine article : A recent issue of *Faith Magazine* has an article about my public service and faith which can be seen [here](#).

Special Needs Children – Help for Parents and Caregivers : Recently, the SC 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 goes into effect on December 7. Between June 9 and December 6, law enforcement may issue warning tickets. There is an anti-texting app which parents can use to keep their teen from texting while driving. To learn more, go [here](#).

Frequency of Email Updates : Because the legislature is out of session, my legislative updates will not be sent as frequently as they are from January to July. However, I will strive to provide at least a couple of updates per month through December.

Constituent Information

Legislative Email Updates : Locally, three 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
- Rep. Don Wells (Dist. 81): dwells29801@gmail.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 [608-9747](tel:608-9747).

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).

Facebook: I have a Facebook page for Senator Tom Young. Please “like” the page to receive updates during the week from me on Facebook.

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.

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](#).

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. 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)

Paid for by Tom Young for Senate

This message was sent to katherineveldran@gov.sc.gov from:

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