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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, December 14, 2015

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S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: State Democrats go for attention-grabbers in pre-filing bills for January

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151214/PC1603/151219835>

Cynthia Roldan

One proposed law would ban selling or purchasing fetal tissue. Another would regulate prescriptions for Viagra, the so-called little blue pill that treats erectile dysfunction. Yet another would decree higher education be debt-free. The past week's pre-filed bills for the upcoming legislative session beginning in January seemed to be aimed more at making a political point than in creating new laws, according to one political observer.

Index-Journal: Legislators draft resolution opposing refugee resettlement program

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/Legislators-draft-resolution-opposing-refugee-resettlement-program>

Colin Riddle

A draft of a resolution opposing the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program is scheduled to come before Abbeville County Council today. District Six Councilman Rick Campbell requested the draft after hearing similar resolutions passed in Greenville, Spartanburg and Pickens counties.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: Trump backers baffled by criticism of his Muslim proposal

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

Jill Colvin, Bill Barrow

As she's working the counter at a hole-in-the-wall hot dog stand named Rosie's in upstate South Carolina, Tracy Hooker isn't interested in debating the merits of Donald Trump's proposal to temporarily block Muslims from coming into the United States.

Breitbart: Ted Cruz, Donald Trump to keynote 2016 South Carolina Tea Party convention

<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/12/13/exclusive-ted-cruz-donald-trump-keynote-2016-south-carolina-tea-party-convention/>

Dan Riehl

The convention, seen by analysts as "a seminal event" in the run-up to the state's "first in the South" primary, runs daily from January 16th – 18th, from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Donald Trump, Carly Fiorina, Mike Huckabee and Rick Santorum are also scheduled to speak. The South Carolina GOP primary is slated for Saturday, February 20.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Year-end income tax planning, and some issues that can wait

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151213/PC05/151219893>

David Slade

Mid-December is a busy time for many people, with end-of-year business to wrap up and holiday preparations to be made. So who wants to deal with income-tax issues now? The good news is, some things that can impact your state and federal income-tax liability don't have deadlines until April, when tax filings are due. However, there are some things to think about before New Year's Day.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Economists: South Carolina finally back from Great Recession

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151213/PC05/151219889>

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina's economy is humming. The unemployment rate is at an eight-year low and lawmakers will open next January's session trying to figure out how to spend an additional \$1.2 billion in projected tax revenue. Some of the recovery from the Great Recession was expected as part of a typical economic cycle.

Greenville News: Office job additions highlight Greenville's competitiveness

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2015/12/13/greenville-lands-spate-of-white-collar-jobs/76980254/>

Rudolph Bell

A trio of recent white-collar job announcements shows Greenville is competing for corporate headquarters and office operations and not just factories and warehouses. Together, the announcements by WYNIT Distribution, JTEKT Corp. and American International Group are good for more than 250 office jobs.

Post and Courier: Mayor-elect John Tecklenburg gears up to lead Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151214/PC16/151219823>

Diane Knich

So far, he has a city cellphone and some office space in a building at 50 Broad St., about a block from City Hall. And he has set up meetings with department heads, starting with police Chief Greg Mullen and Hernan Pena, director of the city's Traffic and Transportation Department.

Local News:

The State: Landlord, tenant problem crackdown proving challenging in Columbia

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article49604025.html>

Clif LeBlanc

The Capital City's effort to regulate landlords and misbehaving tenants is proving to be complicated and contentious. At the center of the debate is a proposed, multi-layered law that would, among other things, allow police to resort to charging the worst of the property owners with a crime of renting without a permit.

National News:

New York Times: Obama, Seeking to Address Public Concerns, Will Meet With Security Team Over ISIS

<http://www.nytimes.com/politics/first-draft/2015/12/14/obama-seeking-to-address-public-concerns-will-meet-with-security-team-over-isis/>

Julie Hirschfeld Davis

Before he hits the beach at the end of the week, President Obama wants to address mounting public concerns about his strategy for confronting terrorism and to show he is focused on the fight, beginning with a visit to the Pentagon today.

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