

Title: **Senate leader resigns to avoid becoming lieutenant governor**
 Author: BY CASSIE COPE ccope@thestate.com
 Size: 41.85 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



LEGISLATURE

Senate leader resigns to avoid becoming lieutenant governor

BY CASSIE COPE

ccope@thestate.com

S.C. Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman resigned Tuesday in order to avoid becoming the state's lieutenant governor.

The state's most powerful politician, Leatherman – who chairs the Senate's powerful budget-writing Finance Committee – said in November he was not interested in becoming lieutenant governor, an essentially powerless position.

The question of who would be South Carolina's lieutenant governor became urgent Tuesday when Gov. Nikki Haley was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Haley then resigned, elevating Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, R-Richland, to the post of governor. That move vacated the lieutenant governor's post.

Last week, however, the S.C. Supreme Court ruled the Senate president pro tempore would replace McMaster as lieutenant governor.

"The state Supreme Court clarified any questions on the line of succession, and as I've stated before, I have no desire to seek statewide office and I will remain in the Senate," Leatherman said in a statement Tuesday evening.

Senators are expected Wednesday to elect state Sen. Kevin Bryant, R-Anderson, to ascend to the lieutenant governor's office.

Once Bryant becomes the state's second-in-command, Leatherman likely will regain the post of Senate leader in a vote of the full Senate.

However, state Sen.

Harvey Peeler, R-Cherokee, plans to challenge Leatherman, R-Florence, for the top Senate post.

Peeler, a former Senate majority leader, said he was pushed to run by senators upset by Leatherman's refusal to ascend to lieutenant governor, part of the Senate president's job description.

Asked whether he thinks he has the votes, Peeler replied: "We'll see. I'm working."

Republicans hold the majority of seats in the 46-member Senate. However, those GOP senators split into competing factions. The competing GOP factions allow Senate Democrats to ally with one Republican group to elect the Senate leader, most recently Leatherman.

However, opposition to Leatherman has been

increasing. In December, nine senators – all Republicans – voted against re-electing him Senate leader.

Leatherman first was elected Senate president pro tempore in 2014 after then-Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston, resigned to become the president of the College of Charleston.

At the time, then-President Pro Tempore John Courson, R-Richland, resigned to avoid becoming lieutenant governor.

After Courson stepped down, senators elected then-Sen. Yancey McGill as Senate president pro tempore and he ascended to become lieutenant governor.

*Avery Wilks contributed.
 Cassie Cope: 803-771-8657,
 @cassielcope*

Title: **Senate leader resigns to avoid becoming lieutenant governor**
Author: BY CASSIE COPE ccope@thestate.com
Size: 41.85 column inches
Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



The (Columbia) State file photo

Hugh Leatherman said he was not interested in becoming lieutenant governor, an essentially powerless position.

Title: **McMastersworn in as S.C. governor after Haley resigns**
 Author: BY JAMIESELF jself@thestate.com
 Size: 105.86 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



McMaster sworn in as S.C. governor after Haley resigns

BY JAMIE SELF
 jself@thestate.com

Exit Gov. Nikki Haley. Enter Gov. Henry McMaster. South Carolina's lieutenant governor became its governor Tuesday, within an hour of Haley being confirmed as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and resigning from her job as the state's chief executive.

After the U.S. Senate voted 96-4 to confirm Haley's appointment by President Donald Trump, McMaster and Haley appeared at the State House with S.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Don Beatty in a ceremonial transfer of power.

McMaster, 69, thanked Haley for her contribution to the state and said he is "humbled, honored and deeply appreciative of being granted one of the rarest opportunities to serve the people of my state, my home and that of my forefathers."

"Great prosperity, success and happiness will be ours, and we will serve as a beacon of inspiration for others," McMaster added, not taking questions from reporters.

A Columbia Republican elect-

ed lieutenant governor in 2014, McMaster took the oath of office Tuesday despite not being required to do so. Under the state Constitution, the lieutenant governor automatically becomes governor when a vacancy occurs in the state's highest office.

McMaster said little Tuesday about his plans as governor.

The leaders of state agencies that form the governor's Cabinet — all appointed by fellow Republican Haley — are staying on board in the new administration, McMaster's office confirmed Tuesday. That includes Commerce Department Secretary Bobby Hitt, credited, with Haley, with attracting thousands of new jobs to the state.

Also, McMaster and wife Peggy plan to move into the Governor's Mansion as soon as possible. The pair live in a home on Senate Street, near the University of South Carolina campus.

S.C. GOP Chairman Matt Moore congratulated Haley and McMaster.

Haley "has led our state through so many difficult days

with grace and humility," Moore said, crediting Haley with improving the state's economy. "We will miss Gov. Haley's strong, principled leadership, but we'll also miss her compassion, kindness and love for our state."

"Gov. McMaster is a lifelong Republican, former state GOP chairman and true public servant who loves South Carolina with all of his heart. I know he will continue our state's legacy of great Republican governors," Moore said.

McMaster's tenure in the governor's office could prove historic.

The former two-term state attorney general will finish the final two years of Haley's term and is expected to run for the office in 2018. If McMaster wins two consecutive terms, he could serve almost 10 years, making him the state's longest serving governor.

HALEY OFF TO NEW JOB

Haley's new job will move her to New York City where she will

SEE MCMASTER, 7A

“GREAT PROSPERITY, SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS WILL BE OURS, AND WE WILL SERVE AS A BEACON OF INSPIRATION FOR OTHERS.”

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster

➔ MORE INSIDE

- Senate leader Hugh Leatherman resigns to avoid becoming lieutenant governor, **4A**
- Trump budget pick S.C. Rep Mick Mulvaney speaks to Congress, **7A**

Title: **McMasterswornin as S.C. governor afterHaley resigns**
 Author: BY JAMIESELF jself@thestate.com
 Size: 105.86 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015

FROM PAGE 1A

MCMMASTER

get a pay raise to \$187,000 a year, up from her \$106,078-a-year salary as governor. She also will get an apartment in Manhattan at the swanky Waldorf Astoria hotel, which houses the official residence of the U.S. ambassador.

Her six years as governor were marked by a sometimes combative relationship with members of the GOP-controlled Legislature, giving legislators letter grades and calling them out publicly for not voting for her agenda.

But Haley also leaves the governor's office with a national reputation, credited for her leadership

in removing the Confederate flag from the State House grounds after the racially motivated slaying of nine African-American Charleston churchgoers, and leading the state's recovery from a flood and hurricane.

Haley's tenure in South Carolina politics may not be over, observers say.

Haley could come back to South Carolina to run

for the U.S. Senate, Winthrop University political scientist Scott Huffmon said.

Before "handing the reins" to McMaster, she said she would be away for a while, adding, "I will always have one eye on South Carolina."

*Cassie Cope contributed;
 Jamie Self: 803-771-8658,
 @jamiemself*



TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is sworn in as governor on Tuesday after Gov. Nikki Haley resigned to take an appointment as United Nations ambassador.

Title: **Haley resigns to take UN post; McMaster new SC governor**
 Author: By SEANNA ADCOX Associated Press
 Size: 70.06 column inches
 Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494



Haley resigns to take UN post; McMaster new SC governor

By SEANNA ADCOX

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley resigned Tuesday as South Carolina's CEO to become the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, giving the state's helm to an early backer of President Donald Trump.

Haley turned in her resignation letter minutes after the U.S. Senate confirmed her as Trump's Cabinet pick.

Under the state constitution, Haley's resignation letter immediately made Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster the 91st governor of South Carolina.

Before McMaster was officially sworn in, Haley

addressed a crowd in the Capitol lobby.

"There's lots of work to do, but we have the right person to do it," she said about McMaster. "It's an absolute privilege and honor to turn over the reins to you."

The South Carolina-born daughter of Indian immigrants became the state's first female and first minority governor in January 2011. The term-limited governor leaves office with two years remaining in her tenure.

Haley used her final State of the

State address earlier this month to say goodbye to South Carolinians and a job she called "the greatest honor of my life."

See **McMASTER**, page 4A

McMASTER

Continued from 1A

Her departure gives 69-year-old McMaster a job he's long wanted, one year after the veteran of South Carolina GOP politics stunned political observers by becoming the nation's first statewide officeholder to endorse Trump. His support never wavered, despite Democrats' calls to renounce it.

After taking the ceremonial oath of office, McMaster, grinning broadly, gave a short speech to the packed lobby.

"I am humbled, honored and deeply appreciative of being granted one of the rarest opportunities to serve the people of my state, my home and that of my forefathers," he said. "Great prosperity, success and happiness will be ours, and we will serve as a beacon of inspiration for others."

Legislators of both parties were eager for McMaster to

take over.

He has said little publicly since Trump picked Haley for the Cabinet position. And he's not expected to make any broad administrative changes. But legislators, many of whom have known McMaster for decades, believe he'll work with them in his characteristic congenial style — a sharp contrast to the combative approach Haley often took as she assailed legislative leaders she disagreed with in speeches and in social media.

Legislators particularly hope McMaster's ascension finally leads to a long-term solution for fixing South Carolina's roads — which again tops their priority list. Haley's threats to veto anything with a gas tax increase stymied efforts for years.

McMaster, the state's former GOP chairman and attorney general for two terms, has been a close ally

of Haley's since she trounced him and two other better-known men in the 2010 Republican gubernatorial primary.

Just days after taking a beating at the polls, McMaster endorsed Haley with an exuberant "I'm all in!" Beyond campaigning with her statewide, he arranged a series of private meetings between Haley and skeptical business leaders a week after she publicly chided the state Chamber of Commerce as a fan of bailouts and corporate welfare.

He served on her transition team, and she then appointed him to the State Ports Authority.

During his 2014 campaign for lieutenant governor, McMaster touted his close relationship with Haley.

His support of Haley, then Trump, has helped him accomplish a five-decade first

in South Carolina.

Voters haven't elected a lieutenant governor to the state's highest office since 1970. The last time a lieutenant governor ascended to the job through a vacancy was April 1965, when then-Gov. Donald Russell appointed himself U.S. senator after a death. His replacement, Robert McNair, served Russell's remaining three years.

McMaster's move leaves a vacancy in the lieutenant governor's office. Although the state constitution calls for the Senate's leader to fill the role, Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman has refused to leave the Senate to take the largely ceremonial position.

Leatherman resigned his

Title: **Haley resigns to take UN post; McMaster new SC governor**
Author: By SEANNA ADCOX Associated Press
Size: 70.06 column inches
Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494

leadership post Tuesday afternoon, just before the U.S. Senate began vot- ing on Hal- ey's confir- mation. "As I've stated before, I have no desire to seek statewide office and I will remain in the Senate," he said. The Senate must elect a new president pro tem, who will then immediately be sworn in as lieutenant gov- ernor. That's expected to be Sen. Kevin Bryant of Ander- son, the only Republican senator who wants the job. Leatherman will attempt to get re-elected as president pro tem — a move at least some senators will oppose.



NIKKI
HALEY



HENRY
McMASTER



HUGH
LEATHERMAN

Title: **Haley resigns to take UN post; McMaster new SC governor**
Author: By SEANNA ADCOX Associated Press
Size: 70.06 column inches
Greenwood, SC Circulation: 16494



ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster, at left, is sworn in by S.C. Chief Justice Don Beatty, at right, during a ceremonial swearing in Tuesday at the Statehouse in Columbia. Second from right is McMaster's wife, Peggy.

Title: **Haley's good showing**
 Author:
 Size: 15.34 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



Haley's good showing

While many Trump Cabinet nominees faced openly hostile questioning this week, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley won bipartisan applause when the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing Wednesday on her nomination to be United States ambassador to the United Nations. And with good reason.

She got a warm reception in part because of her personal charisma and her impressive record as governor. But her frank, thoughtful answers to the committee's questions indicated she would be a strong advocate for this nation, and would not hesitate to disagree with the expressed views of President-elect Donald Trump, who proposed her for the job soon after his election in November.

As Emma Dumain reported in The Post and Courier yesterday, Gov. Haley took issue

with Mr. Trump's characterizations that the United Nations is ineffective and that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is outdated. Russia, she said, "can't be trusted." And she challenged the advisability of a national registry for Muslims.

As U.N. ambassador, Mrs. Haley will be a member of Mr. Trump's National Security Council and an active participant in framing, as well as defending, U.S. foreign policy.

In a revealing comment about her approach to her new responsibilities, she said the new president's national security team — which will also include the secretaries of state and defense, the nation's top military officer, the attorney general and the president's national security adviser — will have to "educate, inform him of what we know, inform him of strategies."

— *Post & Courier*
 Charleston

Title: **Howto holdagovernor accountablefor education**

Author:

Size: 61.53 column inches

Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



CINDI ROSS SCOPPE • ASSOCIATE EDITOR • THE STATE

How to hold a governor accountable for education

SENATORS listened respectfully Thursday as the head of the S.C. Education Association told them that the idea of letting the governor appoint the director of the state Education Department was “a distraction.”

Then the other teacher in the room, freshman Sen. Mike Fanning, explained in a way the lawyers in the room really couldn’t, at least not with

the same credibility, why the notion of political accountability was anything but a distraction.

“As a history teacher,” he said, “*the* most frustrating thing to me was that everyone running for governor was pro-public education, and then when they became governor, there was no way as a teacher to hold them responsible, because their response was, ‘I can’t do anything about that.’” Education superintendents, meantime, would tell teachers the lack of progress wasn’t *their* fault because, for instance, the governor rejected their budget requests.

What teachers need, Mr. Fanning said, is the ability to say to candidates for governor, “if you say you’re pro-public education, when we elect you, we expect you to do something about it.”

And so it was that the two Republicans and the one Democrat on the subcommittee approved the resolution to bring South Carolina into line with the 38 states where the chief educa-

tion official is a professional rather than a politician.

That vote for S.137, to ask voters in 2018 to amend the state constitution to have the governor appoint the superintendent, came an hour after a bipartisan *House* subcommittee unanimously approved an identical measure, H.3146, along with H.3036, which sets requirements for gubernatorially appointed superintendents (our *elected* superintendent simply must be at least 18 years old and a registered voter). Another bipartisan Senate subcommittee had unanimously approved a qualifications bill, S.27, the day before.

I don’t mean by this to suggest that we are just a few perfunctory votes away from one of the most significant reforms to

our antiquated governmental structure ... ever. As we’ve seen too many times, bills can sail through subcommittees and die in full committee. They can sail through full committee and, at least in the Senate, die on the calendar without a moment’s debate, let alone a vote. All that’s required is for a single senator to say, you know, I don’t like that bill, and for his colleagues not to insist on giving the bill one of a precious few priority debate slots.

But last week’s votes were a good start to a year when — despite a promised push for the change by Education Superintendent Molly Spearman and Gov. Nikki Haley (pre-U.N. nomination) — I wasn’t holding my breath for any significant reforms to the government that was designed centuries ago with one goal above all others: to

keep power away from any governor.

Mr. Fanning did a very nice job explaining the importance of being able to hold someone accountable for the progress — or lack thereof — in our schools. Beyond that, as Ms. Spearman and Ms. Haley explained to legislators in November, electing a superintendent independ-

ently of the governor can prevent us “moving the state forward with a common vision for education priorities” and result in “incompatible positions (and) a lack of coordination.” Which is something we’ve seen more often than not in the 30 years I’ve been watching governors and education superintendents who were, more often than not, incompatible even when they came from the same political party.

“What a fragmented approach does more than anything else is that it protects the status quo,” said Sen. Shane Massey, who chaired Thursday’s Senate subcommittee meeting, “because if everybody’s disagreeing, there’s not going to be a whole lot done to change anything.” Having the education superintendent and governor on the same page all the time — not just during rare political alignments like we’ve had the past two years — puts more pressure on the Legislature, he said, to “move on some stuff.” Which we need.

Ms. Spearman recognized during her 2014 campaign that South Carolina was missing out on the most talented candidates because they weren’t willing to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars, take a year away from their professions and go through

Title: **Howto holdagovernor accountablefor education**

Author:

Size: 61.53 column inches

Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015

the rigors of campaigning in order to run for the job.

But for all the logic and practicality from supporters, opponents of this change have a powerful weapon of their own: hyperbole.

“Our concern,” Education Association President Bernadette Hampton told Mr. Massey’s subcommittee, “is that we lose our right as citizens of this state, as taxpayers of this state,

to have any say It’s like we’re moving to a dictatorship.”

She noted that the Education Association’s research had revealed that both North Carolina and Georgia elect their superintendents. She could have added, had she been so inclined, that California does as well, along with its left-coast near-neighbor Washington state and a dwindling handful of other mostly Western states.

Which means we must be off to the Gulag in the vast majority of the states, since either the (elected) governor appoints the education superintendent or the superintendent is selected by the state board of education — which is appointed by the (elected) governor.

Ms. Scoppe can be reached at cscoppe@thestate.com or at (803) 771-8571.

“

**BUT FOR ALL
THE LOGIC AND
PRACTICALITY
FROM SUPPORTERS,
OPPONENTS HAVE A
POWERFUL WEAPON
OF THEIR OWN:
HYPERBOLE.**



Title: **Haley's UN confirmation on tap as McMaster waits**
 Author: BY JAMIE SELF jself@thestate.com
 Size: 34.1 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



S.C. GOVERNOR

Haley's UN confirmation on tap as McMaster waits

BY JAMIE SELF

jself@thestate.com

Gov. Nikki Haley could be confirmed as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations as early as Tuesday, ushering in a new S.C. governor in Henry McMaster and a secession game in the state Senate.

First, Haley must get an official nod of approval from the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The committee is scheduled to take up a vote on her confirmation at noon. Then, the full Senate must vote on whether to confirm her appointment.

That could happen as early as Tuesday. However, if Haley is not confirmed by the Senate on Tuesday, it could be next week before her nomination is voted on. The Senate is not scheduled to meet Wednesday, Thursday or Friday as House and Senate Republicans hold a retreat in Philadelphia.

After the U.S. Senate confirms Haley's appointment and Haley resigns as governor, the Lexington Republican will be sworn in as a member of President Donald Trump's Cabinet.

In her new job, Haley would see a bump in pay – to \$187,000 a year as ambassador, according to a U.S. State Department spokesperson, from \$106,078 as governor.

She also will get a paid-for

SEE HALEY, 10A

FROM PAGE 1A

HALEY

apartment in New York City. The official residence of the U.N. ambassador is a suite in the prestigious Waldorf Astoria hotel.

Upon Haley's resignation, McMaster would become governor, leaving a vacancy in the lieutenant governor's office that would be filled by the president pro tempore of the state Senate.

However, the current pro tem – state Sen. Hugh

Leatherman, R-Florence – does not want to become lieutenant governor, a largely ceremonial post that oversees the state's Office on Aging.

Leatherman is the most powerful legislator in the state, overseeing the Senate calendar and its budget-writing committee, and serving on other boards that control state spending.

Leatherman is expected to resign as Senate president pro tem long enough to allow another senator

to be elected to the post – most likely state Sen. Kevin Bryant, R-Anderson – and become lieutenant governor.

Then, Leatherman is expected to try to regain his post as president pro tem.

McMaster, a former S.C. attorney general and a Columbia Republican, would complete the remaining two years of Haley's term.

McMaster could become the state's longest-

serving governor – serving 10 years – if, as expected, he runs for the office in 2018 and wins re-election in 2022.

S.C. law limits a governor to being elected twice – or eight years. However, McMaster would not be elected to serve the final two years of Haley's term.

Reporter Matthew Schofield of McClatchy contributed.

Jamie Self: 803-771-8658, @jamiemself



Haley