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Subject: Ethics

At one point in the lengthy, sprawling debate, the Senate's leader rose to ask a few questions. Senate Pro-Tempore Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, asked what the point of the discussion was. "Can you tell me what, if anything, is wrong with our current ethics law?" Leatherman asked.

UNREAL.

KV

Post and Courier: S.C. Senate kills ethics measure — possibly for the year

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150211/PC1603/150219805>

Jeremy Borden

The S.C. Senate killed a measure Wednesday aimed at overhauling the law that governs legislators' ethics, throwing into doubt whether anything would get done this year on a major priority for Gov. Nikki Haley and other top leaders. Senators said the chamber's failure to pass a bill on a 19 to 24 vote was a bitter pill, given that the fight comes in the wake of the guilty plea and resignation of former House Speaker Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston, to ethics-related charges.

Note: "When we allow legislators to investigate themselves, it is a slap in the face to every citizen in South Carolina," Haley wrote. "Sen. Rankin put up an amendment that continues this practice, even as we have seen a Lt. Gov., Senator and House Speaker all indicted. I will veto any bill that does not include true independent investigations of elected officials."

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