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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, June 12, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: State pays off unemployment loan early

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/11/south-carolina-pays-unemployment-loan/71082708/>

Tim Smith

South Carolina on Thursday made its final payment early on a federal unemployment loan that at one point reached almost \$1 billion, spanned the terms of two governors and spawned sweeping reforms of the way the state compensates the jobless. Gov. Nikki Haley announced the final payment, backed by lawmakers who helped craft the reforms, as well as business leaders and the director of the state Department of Employment and Workforce.

Note: "This is a fantastic celebration," Haley said. "We saved the businesses of South Carolina \$13 million by paying this off early."

The State: S.C. pays off \$1 billion unemployment loan

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article23772160.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Five months ahead of schedule, South Carolina's unemployment agency has paid off a nearly \$978 million loan that helped the state cover jobless claims during the Great Recession. The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce on Thursday made a final \$120 million early payment to the U.S. Department of Labor, repaying the debt.

Note: "A billion-dollar loan is no small loan," Haley said, adding the early payoff saved state businesses more than \$12 million in interest payments.

Associated Press: South Carolina pays off \$1B unemployment debt to federal government

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC05/150619859/1177/south-carolina-pays-off-1b-unemployment-debt-to-federal-government>

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's unemployment agency has paid off its nearly \$1 billion debt to the federal government, five months ahead of schedule. Gov. Nikki Haley announced that the Department of Employment and Workforce made a final payment Thursday of \$120 million. Early payments over the past four years have collectively saved businesses nearly \$13 million in interest, while also reducing their insurance taxes.

Note: Among the 36 states that borrowed money to pay recession-era unemployment benefits, South Carolina was the only state to avoid penalties that increase federal unemployment tax rates and would have forced businesses to pay more, Haley said.

WACH: South Carolina pays off \$1 Billion loan, saving small businesses millions

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=1216525#.VXrJPvIViko>

Tara Petitt

Governor Nikki Haley announced Thursday that the state has paid off a billion dollar loan, and they did it early. The loan was given by the Government more than five years ago to pay for unemployment benefits and services during the recession.

Note: "We saved the businesses of South Carolina 13 million dollars by paying this off early," said Governor Haley at a news conference Thursday.

The State: S.C. State keeps accreditation, expects more cuts

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article23752171.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

As supporters celebrated news Thursday that S.C. State University would keep its accreditation, the

college's board chairman acknowledged more cuts are on the way to trim its \$20 million-plus deficit.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley said Thursday the accrediting agency's decision suggests a lot of work remains. "One, they're saying that this is a school that has opportunity," she said. "This is a school that has enough history that we can pull them out. But they want to be cautious enough to say, 'It's not done yet.' "

WACH: Exclusive: Scott attorney and family call body cam bill progress

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=1216459#.VXrGKvIViko>

Shelli Adamczyk

Wednesday Governor Nikki Haley signed a long awaited bill that will help put body cameras on every police officer in the state. The family of Walter Scott stood by Haley to show their support for the bill, but they say they're still asking for justice.

Note: Nearly two months after the shooting death of Walter Scott, Gov. Haley made a body camera measure official on Thursday to help bring body cameras to law enforcement agencies.

Post and Courier: ACLU files records request on Gov. Nikki Haley's involvement in Saturday's prayer rally

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC1603/150619880/1031/aclu-files-records-request-on-gov-nikki-haley-x2019-s-involvement-in-saturday-x2019-s-prayer-rally>

Schuyler Kropf

Gov. Nikki Haley's involvement in a massive prayer rally Saturday in North Charleston has drawn the interest of the American Civil Liberties Union, which wants an accounting of whether taxpayer money is being used to promote religion.

Note: "Being that the ACLU purportedly exists to protect Americans' civil liberties, one would think they'd be more supportive of Gov. Haley choosing to exercise her freedom of religion," spokeswoman Chaney Adams said.

WCIV: North Charleston prayer event sparks political controversy

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/29302531/prayer-event-in-north-charleston-sparks-controversy?config=H264>

The American Civil Liberties Union wants to know if Gov. Nikki Haley used public resources when she promoted a six-hour long prayer service coming to the North Charleston Coliseum Saturday. The South Carolina chapter of the ACLU on Thursday asked Haley and other officials to disclose the amount of taxpayer dollars and other state or local government resources used to promote the prayer event, "The Response: A Call to Prayer for our Nation."

Note: Haley's office issued a response Thursday. "Being that the ACLU purportedly exists to protect Americans' civil liberties, one would think they'd be more supportive of Governor Haley choosing to exercise her freedom of religion."

Associated Press: Kansas House approves new tax plan after governor's plea

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/business/article23827303.html#storylink=cpy>

John Hanna, Nicholas Clayton

Republican leaders pushed a new plan for raising taxes through the Kansas House early Friday morning, hours after top aides to GOP Gov. Sam Brownback warned them that failing to erase a budget deficit risked funding for universities and invited a downgrading of the state's bond ratings.

Note: Other states have seen Kansas's experience as a cautionary tale. In February, when South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley outlined proposals for slashing income taxes, she said, "We are not doing what Kansas did."

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: Huckabee making weekend swing through South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1VCk24wi

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee is returning to South Carolina. The Republican presidential hopeful begins his trip on Friday with a meet and greet at The Beacon Drive-In Restaurant in Spartanburg.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Greenville News: Legislature failed on roads plan

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/06/11/editorial-legislature-failed-roads-plan/71092778/>

Editorial

South Carolina legislators failed miserably this year on what many of them had said in January was their most important task during this legislative year. The Legislature has ended its session no closer than it was a year ago to approving to a comprehensive, long-term plan for fixing our state's crumbling roads system.

Note: Despite hearing from industries and businesses that the poor roads threaten South Carolina's economic development, Gov. Nikki Haley unveiled her long-awaited plan at the beginning of the year that included a little money for fixing roads and a whole lot of money for an income tax cut notable for the thinness of analysis and thoughtfulness behind it.

Sumter Item: Legislature blew it on state's roads bill

<http://theitem.com/stories/legislature-blew-it-on-states-roads-bill,248628?>

Editorial

So much for the S.C. Legislature moving ahead on a road funding bill during its recently concluded regular session. Remember when fixing our state's roads was to be its top priority in 2015? Remember back in 2014 when Gov. Nikki Haley said she would veto any gas tax increase?

Post and Courier: Outrageously dismissive DHEC

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150612/PC1002/150619823>

Editorial

Why should the state Department of Health and Environmental Control board have reconsidered its staff's decision on offshore seismic testing? There are plenty of reasons. More than 300 people requested an opportunity to address the DHEC board regarding its endorsement of offshore seismic testing.

Index-Journal: On being reasonable, legislation and drinks

<http://indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/On-being-reasonable--legislation-and-drinks>

Editorial

Thumbs up to those in the Greenwood community who are being rational and reasonable about the news surrounding the E. coli outbreak. This truly has been a sad occasion for many families, most certainly for the family of the young boy who lost his life. It also has been a time of elevated concerns for people who might have had contact with people associated with the day care facility involved.

Post and Courier: Pass trade promotion bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150612/PC1002/150619824>

Editorial

If all goes well today, the U.S. House will pass a package of interconnected bills to limit congressional action on any pending trade agreement to an up-or-down vote, with no amendments. The legislation also would provide generous federal "adjustment assistance" to workers who lose jobs because of imports.

The State: Leading 'The Response' fine for citizen Haley, not Gov. Haley

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article23775265.html>

Rev. Joseph A. Darby

During my years as a pastor in the Columbia area, I was blessed to serve a term as president of what was then called the Greater Columbia Interfaith Clergy Association. I'm a committed Christian, but I also have an appreciation and respect for the diversity of faith in our communities, state and nation.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Witness in Walter Scott shooting recognized by S.C. House

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC16/150619838>

Melissa Boughton

Feidin Santana, who filmed the deadly shooting of Walter Scott with his cellphone, said his life has changed since April 4. Charleston Democratic Rep. Wendell Gilliard presented Santana with a plaque at the International Longshoremen's Association Hall in front of several community leaders and activists. The resolution acknowledges that Santana's "coming forward with the video contributed to an orderly and prompt judicial processing of the incident."

South Carolina News:

The State: DHEC board won't stop permitting for seismic testing off SC coast

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article23780386.html#storylink=cpy>

Roddie Burris

State regulators refused Thursday to take up an appeal to a federal permitting process that could allow underwater seismic testing off the S.C. coast, leaving the courts as the next possible alternative for opponents of offshore drilling for oil and natural gas.

Post and Courier: State takes new tack on Capt. Sam's development permits

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC16/150619844>

Bo Petersen

State regulators have rescinded their approval of a permit that would have allowed a controversial wall on Capt. Sam's Spit. Instead they have approved a group of permits that could speed up development there. The change came after environmental opponents requested the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control board to deny the earlier wall permit.

Post and Courier: Boeing projects strong demand for Dreamliners, other segments through 2034

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC05/150619875>

David Wren

Boeing would have to build 8,290 Dreamliners over the next 20 years to meet the worldwide demand for small- to medium-size wide-body jets, the company said Thursday as it released a long-range forecast for its commercial airplane division.

Rock Hill Herald: S.C. schools leader talks about 'project-based' learning in Western York County visit

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/enquirer-herald/article23772733.html#storylink=cpy>

Jennifer Becknell

A move toward hands-on, project-based education is key to engaging students in learning and helping them see its relevance, S.C. Education Superintendent Molly Spearman told Western York County leaders Thursday.

Local News:

Greenville News: Pickens County lagging in economic development

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2015/06/11/pickens-county-lagging-economic-development/71078142/>

Ron Barnett

Over the past two years, the state Department of Commerce has announced 22 new or expanding industrial projects in Greenville County, 15 in Anderson, nine in Oconee and nine in Laurens. And zero in Pickens County. After years of recession, economic development is fairly booming in the Upstate – except in Pickens County.

Aiken Standard: Helping troubled kids: Social service resources available to Aiken County teachers

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150611/AIK0101/150619875/1004>

Rob Novit

For about 16 years, Children's Place Director Peggy Ford has described the stark issues that kids and teenagers can bring to their classrooms. Summer Institute is bringing teachers, and now some social agency personnel, together for a week-long series of sessions. Through a number of sessions this week, they can learn about the resources available to them when children have emotional or physical problems related to their home lives.

National News:

Associated Press: Jeb Bush says he's 'evolved' on unwed motherhood

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150611/PC1603/150619850>

Thomas Beaumont

Republican presidential contender Jeb Bush says his views toward single mothers "have evolved" since he suggested 20 years ago that they were becoming too accepted by society. In a 1996 book, Bush and co-author Brian Yablonski expressed concern about changing cultural mores and wrote, regarding unwed motherhood, that there was "no longer a stigma attached to this behavior."

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