

Title: **20-week abortion ban signed in SC**

Author:

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20-week abortion ban signed in SC

COLUMBIA

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation Wednesday that immediately outlaws most abortions in South Carolina at 20 weeks beyond fertilization.

The only exceptions are if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb.

Doctors face up to \$10,000 in fines and 3 years in prison for each violation; prison time is mandatory on a third conviction.

These bans are now in effect in at least 13 states and blocked by court challenges in several others. South Dakota's ban takes effect July 1.

The Supreme Court has yet to rule on bans that would limit even earlier abortions.

Title: **Gov. Haley signs 20-week abortion ban**
Author:
Size: 8.68 column inches
Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



Gov. Haley signs 20-week abortion ban

COLUMBIA (AP) — Republican Gov. Nikki Haley signed legislation Wednesday that immediately outlaws most abortions in South Carolina at 20 weeks beyond fertilization.

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conviction.

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Women nationwide have the right to obtain abortions under the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling, which said states could restrict abortions after viability — the point when a fetus has a reasonable chance of surviving outside the uterus. "Viability is usually placed at about seven months (28 weeks) but may occur earlier, even at 24 weeks," the ruling said.

Title: **Haley to speak at inaugural graduation**
 Author: SUBMITTED ARTICLE editorial@aikenstandard.com
 Size: 29.91 column inches
 Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



Haley to speak at inaugural graduation

POST ChalleNGe graduates recognized at Aiken Technical College

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

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S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will be the guest speaker at the inaugural graduation for the POST ChalleNGe program Friday at Aiken Technical College.

The ceremony will be at 2 p.m. in the Gregg-Graniteville Student Activities Center gymnasium.

The POST ChalleNGe program is a collaborative between the S.C. Army National Guard, ATC, Clemson University's Youth Learning Institute Camp Long facility, the Aiken County Public School District and the Lower Savannah Council of Governments' Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The program was created through an

award of a nearly \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to create a 20-week extension to the S.C. Army National Guard's Youth ChalleNGe Academy based at McCrady Training Center in Eastover. The program, which began in January, will serve six cohorts of students over the next three years.

"These young people have already completed Youth ChalleNGe, a 22-week quasi-military program which follows an intervention model of eight core components to improve their life skills and enhance the holistic growth of the cadets," said Larry Snipes, director of the POST ChalleNGe program. "Depart-

ment of Labor's Job Challenge, called POST ChalleNGe in South Carolina, is a pilot program that expands and enhances the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program's job skills component."

Cadets selected for the POST ChalleNGe program have an opportunity to earn applied science certificates from ATC during the 20-week session in high-demand fields such as welding, basic tower and wireless installation, production technology, computer technology and patient care assisting.

In addition to receiving a college credential, cadets also will be recognized at graduation for other credentials received during the course of the program, such as WorkKeys and GED credentials.



Haley

Title: **House OKs \$2B road borrowing bill liked by Senate and Haley**
 Author: BY JEFFREY COLLINS Associated Press
 Size: 27.12 column inches
 Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 61238



House OKs \$2B road borrowing bill liked by Senate and Haley

BY JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press
 COLUMBIA

A bill that would borrow \$2 billion to fix major highways and bridges in South Carolina may have only a short distance left to go.

The House voted 102-3 Tuesday to give key approval to a combined bill with both the extra money for roads and a change in the commission that runs the state Department of Transportation.

The Senate passed similar proposals separately, and Gov. Nikki Haley has indicated she supports them.

The vote with just six days left in the General Assembly's session puts lawmakers as close as they have been during their two years in Columbia to putting a significant dent in the nearly \$1 billion a year for 30 years

the Department of Transportation said it needs to get South Carolina roads to good condition.

Currently, the DOT says

54 percent of the state's primary roads are now in poor condition, compared with 31 percent eight years ago.

"This is not the end all, to fix all. But it is the start to getting it fixed," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Brian White, the Anderson Republican who runs the chamber's budget committee.

The bill uses the remaining part of the state sales tax on vehicle purchases currently sent to the general

budget fund and the fee paid for a driver's license to come up with \$200 million, which

would be used to get bonds of up to \$2.2 billion over 10 years.

That money will free up funds the DOT would have spent on the bridge repairs and interstate widenings that can be used to pave rural roads and fix other problems, DOT Secretary Christy Hall has said.

The three House members who voted against the bill said the state shouldn't borrow money for these types of projects.

The DOT will use the borrowed money to fix the outdated and clogged intersection of Interstates 20, 26 and 126 northwest of Columbia and widen sections of Interstate 85 in Cherokee County and Interstate 26 in Berkeley and Dorchester counties. It also

will eliminate the entire list of load-restricted bridges statewide, as well as 51 structurally deficient bridges on interstates and major highways.

The bill also allows the governor to appoint all the members of the DOT board. Currently, lawmakers appoint seven of the eight members. Under the bill, the board would pick the DOT secretary. That role is currently appointed by the governor.

The members who voted against the bill also said lawmakers should take more time to make sure reforms at DOT are working.

"We need to reform DOT before we throw buckets of money at them," said Rep. Ralph Norman, R-Rock Hill.

Title: **ABORTION RIGHTS SUPPORTERS CALL ON HALEY TO VETO BILL**
 Author:
 Size: 8.37 column inches
 Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 61238



ABORTION RIGHTS SUPPORTERS CALL ON HALEY TO VETO BILL

COLUMBIA

Abortion rights supporters are calling on Republican Gov. Nikki Haley to veto a bill banning most abortions in South Carolina past 19 weeks.

About 50 people chanted "Stop the Ban!" during a rally Tuesday outside the Statehouse. Signs carried by protesters included those reading "Keep the elephant out of the womb" and "Don't tread on me" next to a drawing of a uterus.

The Legislature gave final approval to the measure last week. It allows exceptions only if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb.

Haley has said she'll almost certainly sign the bill. It will reach her desk after the leaders of both chambers ceremoniously sign it.

Seven Democratic legislators who fought the bill addressed the rally.

Title: **Berkeley bathroom bill likely dead for the year**
 Author: BY CASSIE COPE ccope@thestate.com
 Size: 34.72 column inches
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



Berkeley bathroom bill likely dead for the year

BY CASSIE COPE
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Two local senators block proposal

Senator says he objected because local authorities should settle issue

Proposal opposed by S.C. Republican leaders and Democrats

A proposal to ban Berkeley County students from using the bathrooms of their choice is likely dead for the year after two local senators blocked it Tuesday.

State Sens. Sean Bennett, R-Dorchester, and Paul Campbell, R-Berkeley, whose districts include parts of the county, objected to the proposal, made by state Sen. Larry Grooms, R-Berkeley. Campbell said he blocked the proposal to let local authorities deal with the issue.

Grooms' proposal would have required Berkeley students to use bathrooms based on the gender on their birth certificate. The Senate gave the second of

three required approvals to the local legislation last week.

Normally, passage of local legislation, which only affects a legislator's district, is routine. However, the bathroom bill was opposed by elected S.C. Republican leaders — including Gov. Nikki Haley and education Superintendent Molly Spearman — and many Democratic senators.

Bathroom-ban proposals have become a divisive issue since North Carolina

passed a law in March that critics say discriminates against transgender people. In the wake of that law, North Carolina has been threatened with the loss of federal education money and jobs as some companies have canceled their plans to expand in that state.

Earlier this spring, state Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, pushed for a statewide ban on S.C. residents using bathrooms of their choice. However,

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BILL

that effort failed in the face of opposition from Haley and the S.C. Chamber of Commerce.

With several Berkeley lawmakers absent, senators abruptly adjourned Thursday to block the Senate from giving final

approval to the Berkeley bathroom ban. Some senators expressed concern the bathroom bill could jeopardize almost \$1 billion in federal aid that goes to S.C. schools or new jobs coming to the state.

Berkeley is the site of a Volvo auto plant, now under construction, expected eventually to employ 4,000. The state promised Volvo almost \$200 million in incentives to build in Berkeley.

The Berkeley County

school board had a meeting planned for Tuesday evening. However, board chairman Jim Hayes has said the bathroom issue is not likely to come up.

—
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Title: **Haley asks FCC to let states act on cellphones in prisons**
Author:
Size: 9.14 column inches
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Haley asks FCC to let states act on cellphones in prisons

Gov. Nikki Haley has written to the Federal Communications Commission, asking the agency to reverse its decision not to allow states to jam cellphone transmissions in prisons.

Haley, along with nine other governors, signed the letter to FCC Chairman Thomas Wheeler on Tuesday, according to a news release. The letter asks the FCC to “streamline regulatory review processes” regarding contraband cellphones in prisons and to allow states more freedom to act on the matter.

“Correctional officers across the country work in an environment many will never see or fully understand in terms of threats to staff and public safety,” the letter reads. “Contraband cellphones in the hands of prisoners dramatically increase these threats to witnesses, the public, the officers, their families, and even other prisoners.”

— GLEN LUKE FLANAGAN

Title: **FORT JACKSON'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY**
 Author: BY JEFF WILKINSON jwilkinson@thestate.com
 Size: 72.07 column inches
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



FORT JACKSON'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Year-long series of events will stretch from Columbia to Charleston

Coins, merchandise, signs and billboards will commemorate centennial

BY JEFF WILKINSON

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More than 30 businesses, organizations, sporting events and festivals are partnering with Fort Jackson for its centennial celebration, beginning with the 241st Army Birthday Ball on June 18 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

When it turns 100 on June 2, 2017, Fort Jackson — which began as a World War I training base — will have trained an estimated 5 million soldiers. Today it is the nation's largest basic training facility.

To celebrate the milestone, the Army and community are planning a yearlong series of events and commemorations, both on post and off, ranging from a Lexington County Blowfish game to the nationally televised Sept. 3 Bojangles Southern 500 NASCAR race in Darlington, to Columbia's restaurant week in January.

"You only turn 100 once," Fort Jackson spokesman Chris Fletcher said during a media tour of the fort to kick off the events. "We wanted to show the support the Mid-

lands has for Fort Jackson and the support Fort Jackson gives to the community."

In addition to events outside the gates, the fort will have a series of events on its birthday week June 2, 2017, to June 10, 2017, to mark the occasion. A golf tournament, post run, fireworks and other events are planned. The Old Guard Fife and Drum

Corps is to perform, and Gov. Nikki Haley and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley have been invited to speak.

Included in the celebration will be the dedication ceremony for the first phase of Centennial Park, being built on the site of the old Post Headquarters, recently razed. The park is adjacent to the Basic Combat Training Museum, and is planned as a focal point for soldiers' families to gather on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the fort's graduation ceremonies.

The approximately \$1 million budget for the park is being raised privately in the community by a foundation called Gateway to the Army.

The fort also plans a

100th anniversary book on the general history of Fort Jackson, and a second book on the social history of the fort. Also, the fort is working with The State newspaper on a 100-year anniversary book.

The Basic Combat Training Museum will open a world World War I trench display to commemorate Camp Jackson, as it was called during World War I, and merchandise featuring the centennial logo will be available. Billboards and signs will be displayed on post and through the city and Midlands acknowledging the celebration.

But the events, dedications and other commemorations are more than just a party. They show the link between Columbia, the Midlands and Fort Jackson, said the fort's deputy commander, Col. Mark Shade. The support of Columbia for the fort creates a first impression of the Army for the families of 45,000 or so soldiers who graduate from basic training here each year, and bolsters support among Army brass for Fort Jackson in the face of budget cuts and possible

base closures.

"The reputation of Columbia is interwoven with the reputation of Fort Jackson and the Army," said Shade. "So (support for the military in) Columbia has a huge impact on the opinions those families and extended families have of the Army. Columbia has a phenomenal reputation (for its support of the military), probably the best in the Army. That sends a huge message to Army leadership."

Fort Jackson turns 100

Among the events that will be tied to Fort Jackson Centennial over the next year are:

- Historic Camden Revolutionary War Days
- Brew at the Zoo, Columbia
- Spoletto, Charleston
- Bojangles Southern 500, Darlington
- Famously Hot New Year, Columbia
- St. Patrick's Day Parade, Columbia



Video highlights of training at Fort Jackson, thestate.com

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Author: BY JEFF WILKINSON jwilkinson@thestate.com
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TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

The U.S. Army Chaplain Museum at Fort Jackson. The Army base is turning 100 next year.

Title: **German company announces plant**
 Author: RON BARNETT RBARNETT@GREENVILLENEWS.COM
 Size: 28.67 column inches
 Greenville, SC Circulation: 113473



German company announces plant

Will bring 45 jobs to
 Pickens County

RON BARNETT

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Project Big Apple came to fruition last Wednesday, with the announcement that the world's leader in high-speed railway couplings is moving its North American manufacturing headquarters to Pickens County.

County Council gave final approval to a fee-in-lieu of taxes agreement and other incentives in a special meeting at Alliance Pickens headquarters to make way for the announcement that German-based era-contact would be building a \$3.6 million facility in the Pickens County Commerce Park that will create 45 jobs.

The company had been referred to as Project Big Apple in county documents to shield its identity during negotiations because it will be moving its only

operation in the U.S. from New York to Pickens County.

"This world leader could have gone anywhere, but they chose Pickens County," council chairman Jennifer Willis said.

Jochen Kurz, general manager of the family-owned company, said the Pickens County School District's Career and Technology Center was one of the key selling points in the decision to locate in the park near Liberty.

"It was love at first sight," he said of his visit to the county while prospecting for a site.

The company will be needing sales people, engineers and technicians, and it expects to be recruiting students right out of the career center and training

them for jobs, he said.

The 38,000-square-foot facility is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2017, he said.

The company's market in the USA is similar in size to its business in China, where it employs about 200 workers, and Kurz told *The Greenville News* he expects to have that large a workforce here eventually.

"It's always a great day in our state when we can welcome a company like era-contact USA to the South Carolina family," Gov. Nikki Haley said in a statement released by the Department of Commerce. "Their decision to create 45 new jobs in Pickens County is a huge win for the people of South Carolina and is a real reason to celebrate across the state."



RON BARNETT

Artist rendering of a facility to be built in the Pickens County Commerce Park.

Title: **House OKs \$2B road borrowing bill**
 Author: Associated Press
 Size: 16.58 column inches
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House OKs \$2B road borrowing bill

Associated Press

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"This is not the end all, to fix all. But it is the start to getting it fixed," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Brian White, the Anderson Republican who runs the chamber's budget committee.

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up with \$200 million, which would be used to get bonds of up to \$2.2 billion over 10 years.

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