



Item
Sumter, SC
Circ. 19018
From Page:
13
4/2/2015
67039



148

**THE ISLAND PACKET
OF HILTON HEAD**

March 24

**HALEY'S STAND IMPORTANT AGAINST
NEW NUCLEAR PLAN**

Gov. Nikki Haley's forceful opposition to more toxic waste in South Carolina is well founded and much appreciated.

A private operator wants the state to undo a hard-fought compact reached long ago to stem the tide of nuclear waste brought into South Carolina.

Haley's stand is consistent with long-established policy. She correctly called the new proposal a "huge step backward."

"We don't sell our soul for jobs and money," Haley said last week. "I'm not willing to go in and take in nuclear waste that our kids and grandkids are going to have to deal with."

The 235-acre Barnwell Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility opened in 1971. Tons of radioactive trash from 39 states was buried there before South Carolina lawmakers started to push back about three decades later. It holds 28 million cubic feet of material that leaks radiation, and now the Utah-based company that operates the site wants to bring in material that is more highly contaminated from more states.

On the face of it, the proposal is absurd.

But EnergySolutions, operating in Barnwell as Chem-Nuclear, started a public relations campaign to undo the Atlantic Compact limitations put in place in 2000 under Gov. Jim Hodges after years of work. The compact was agreed to by the state, Chem Nuclear and Barnwell leadership. As a result, the landfill was closed in 2008 to all states except South Carolina, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Haley's strong stand reflects the resolve it will take to keep South Carolina from being the nation's nuclear dumping ground.

EnergySolutions argues it must bring in higher-level waste from around the country to help pay for environmental management of the site.

"Using a pro-environmental argument for taking higher-level waste to pay for environmental degradation that's taken place there over time -- that's pretty unique and creative," Hodges said.

Thankfully, Haley is not falling for it, and neither should the state legislature.

South Carolina has borne well more than its share of the nation's nuclear-waste problem. Besides the Barnwell County site, tons of nuclear waste remains at the Savannah River Site, a Cold War nuclear weapons producer near Aiken. That problem was made worse when the Obama administration negligently halted work on a national nuclear-waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Utah...



Edgefield
Advertiser
Edgefield, SC
Circ. 3228
From Page:
1
4/1/2015
65274



¹⁴⁸Changes Coming for Turkey Hunters - Possibly as Soon as Next Year

Turkey hunters across the state can expect to see changes to the season as well as to bag limits when a new bill goes into effect. These changes, first brought before the state's House of Representatives in bill H. 3118, will change the current bag limit from 5 turkeys a season to 3 with only 2 harvests allowed per day. Additionally, turkey season will become consistent throughout the state. Currently, turkey season opens sooner in some game zones, but these new changes will see the season open in all game zones on March 20 and end on May 5. This bill, which is awaiting Governor Haley's signature in order to become law, is expected to be in effect next spring.

Speaking to The Advertiser last week, Representative Bill Hixon, who is also Chairman on the House of Representative's Wildlife Committee, said discussions about changes to turkey hunting in South Carolina has been "going on for a while." As he explained, South Carolina has a diminishing flock of turkeys. However, we are not the only state seeing a decrease in wild turkey numbers. Rep. Hixon said turkey numbers are down nationwide. South Carolina is one of two states, though, with the highest bag limits in the nation. (Alabama being the other.) "It's a bad situation," Rep. Hixon said. "We can't deplete our natural resources."

Changes to the turkey season are not the only ways legislators are working to save the turkeys and turkey hunting in South Carolina. Rep. Hixon explained that

the state has hired a biologist from LSU to study the state's turkey population. Rep. Hixon said coyotes and predators have taken a toll on the nests of turkeys, and perhaps with this study, just how much of a toll can be determined. "This is going to be a world class study ... and other states are going to want to look at it," Rep. Hixon stated. This study, which is currently on-going, involves fitting approximately 60 turkeys with a special camera and tracking them for three years. "[The study is] some-

See Turkey
Section 1 page 3



Edgefield
Advertiser
Edgefield, SC
Circ. 3228
From Page:
3
4/1/2015
65274



Turkey

from front page

thing I think is needed," Rep. Hixon said.

This study will also be influential in determining whether or not the new changes to turkey hunting will remain in place or if further changes to turkey hunting in the state are made. As Rep. Hixon explained, the current bill has a "sunset provision." To become permanent, the bill will have to be revisited in 3 years. At that time, law makers will have the option to make the current changes permanent. If, however, legislators choose to do nothing, this bill will die and turkey laws will revert back to their current status. Rep. Hixon cautioned, however, that based on the data collected from the commissioned turkey study, "It could be so bad you have to reduce it [bag limits] back even more."

Rep. Hixon said that his goal as a hunter and a law maker is to protect the state's natural resources and make laws applicable to those resources consistent across the state. He said that he believes the current proposed changes to turkey hunting will accomplish this for the time being. The changes also have the support of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the SC Department of Natural Resources.

Tiffani Ireland

Journal-Scene
 Summerville, SC
 Circ. 5929
 From Page:
 1
 4/3/2015
 64234



¹⁴⁸ Haley talks roads, workforce with Rotary

JENNA-LEY HARRISON
 jharrison@journalscene.com

Summerville Rotary Club received a visit Wednesday from the state's top leader.

Governor Nikki Haley's entrance at Holiday Inn Express met with immediate applause and celebration as members and media outlets waited for her to approach the podium and address key issues affecting both the state and tri-county.

"I think a lot of times the cameras show up because they don't know what I'm going to say," Haley said laughingly during her address.

She started her speech by tell-

ing her audience "we have a lot to talk about today" and prefacing the state's largest looming issues with a positive reminder of how far South Carolina has come since 2008 when "times were tough."

"We got very smart very fast and look at us today," Haley said, pointing out how the state is not only No. 2 on the nation's list of fastest-growing states but also the top state in tire production.

She also touched on Boeing's contribution to the state economy and how the company's decision to settle its headquarters

See **HALEY, Page 6A**



Jenna-Ley Harrison/Journal Scene

Gov. Nikki Haley (R) speaks one-on-one with Summerville Rotarian James Myers following her brief address to the club at its April 1 meeting. She discussed updates on education, jobs, roads and small businesses.



Journal-Scene
Summerville, SC
Circ. 5929
From Page:
6
4/3/2015
64234



Haley

from page 1A

in South Carolina escalated the state's worth to critics outside state lines and across the country.

"They didn't think we could build airplanes and we did," Haley said.

She said South Carolina's workforce is "loyal," full of pride and a citizen unit she felt unions should stay out of.

"My job is to protect the workforce," she said. "I say, 'Get out! (to unions).'"

She said the state's next step in continuing to grow the

workforce and decrease unemployment rates should be: workforce training, specifically through a program she dubbed "Succeed."

The initiative, which she has proposed to start next year,

will target "our little guys," she said, particularly the "single moms" and other population groups across the state that must work to survive.

Some of the governor's biggest talking points included the need for large companies across the state to continue working with small local business operations as well a solution for fixing state roadways' perpetual poor condition and ways to draw teachers to more

rural school districts.

Haley said she's proposed a \$400 million plan to cover the cost of road repair and maintenance along with a way to restructure the Department of Transportation.

She wants to make it a cabinet agency, so it better handles roadway responsibilities, reducing potholes and enhancing driver safety.

She also said unmaintained roadways over the years have

kept certain areas of the state from reaching their economic potential.

As far as Haley's plan to prevent teacher turnover in rural communities, she outlined for Rotarians her plan to pay stu-

dents' college tuition if they commit to between five and eight years of work in rural schools. Any teacher who opts to move from an urban area to fill a rural position will receive an increase in pay, she said.

"How is a kid supposed to feel if, at the end of the day, everyone leaves and they're still there?" Haley noted.

Following Haley's address, Rotary announced plans to donate the children's book "The Dot" to a local school in the governor's name.

Haley's visit to the Summerville club served as her first time in at least two years, according to Program Chair Bob Quinn.

Goose Creek
Gazette
Goose
Creek, SC
Circ. 13000
From Page:
5
4/2/2015
64132



148 Rivers seeks public input on House bill 3579, road funding

BY REP. SAMUEL RIVERS
Special to The Gazette

The House Ways and Means Committee to the necessary legislative step to repairing roads and infrastructure took the next necessary legislative step to roads, funding bill H. 3579. The bill now moves to the House under.

The Senate Finance Committee did the same but with a different approach. Both bills seek to raise money through very different means; neither may be able to withstand a veto from Gov. Haley. Gov. Haley said she will not support increasing gas taxes without corresponding income tax relief.

The House version works toward accommodating the governor by trimming the state's

16.75 cent per-gallon gas tax to 10.75 cents and shifting funding to a new sales tax paid at the whole-sale level on gasoline and diesel fuel.

Rivers

In exchange, an income tax break (averaging \$48 for the average income tax filer) would be offered to offset any higher price at the pump.

It's predicted the proposal would bring in an additional \$400 million each year. The bill also calls for a restructuring of SCDOT and the State Infrastructure Bank.

The Senate version would

raise \$800 million through a 12-cent gas tax increase and the doubling of various vehicle registration and state license fees.

What do you think?

I would like to have your input via email, phone call, or social media on this important legislation. Tell us what you think of the road funding issue.

Please participate in the House Republican Caucus online poll at <http://schousegop.org/roads-poll/>

It is an honor to serve you and your family in the General Assembly. If I can assist navigating state government, or if you have ideas on issues you want me to share with my colleagues in the House, don't hesitate to contact me at, samuelrivers@schouse.gov or (803) 212-6890.

Goose Creek
Gazette
Goose
Creek, SC
Circ. 13000
From Page:
4
4/2/2015
64132



148 Haley stresses importance of prescribed fires

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has proclaimed March 2015 Prescribed Fire Awareness Month in South Carolina.

A coalition of state, federal and non-governmental land management organizations under

Photo Provided

Gov. Haley's proclamation has underlined the importance of prescribed fires.

the umbrella of the South Carolina Prescribed Fire Council requested the proclamation to raise awareness of the essential role that fire plays in both the stewardship of our natural resources and the protection of lives and property.

Prescribed, or controlled, burning is the skilled application of fire under planned weather and fuel conditions to achieve specific forest and land management objectives. Controlled burning is an ancient practice, notably used by Native Americans for crop management, insect and pest control, and hunt-

ing habitat improvement, among other purposes.

The practice continues today under the direction of land managers who understand the appropriate weather conditions, fuel loads and atmospheric conditions for conducting such burns. These carefully applied fires are an important tool to reduce wildfires, maintain wildlife habitat, and keep the more than 13 million acres of forested land in South Carolina healthy and productive.

While prescribed burning cannot stop all wildfires, it is the best management tool available for preventing larger and more frequent outbreaks. "Prescribed burning is not only the most effective, economical protection against wildfires because it reduces accumulated fuels," said Haley in her proclamation, "but it is also a key tool in managing and maintaining the ecological integrity of South Carolina's woodlands, grasslands, agricultural areas and wildlife habitats."



Hartsville
Messenger
Hartsville, SC
Circ. 6303
From Page:
6
4/1/2015
63276



148 When tax cuts might become bad policy

It's almost a given at the Statehouse that if you're Republican, you're for tax cuts. It's just an assumed part of the political playbook, the same document that includes the think-tank-generated mantra that scores of legislators embrace to get elected to oppose tax increases.

This tax worldview creates a limited policy framework with which lawmakers can operate to deal with the challenges of government. When tax hikes are off the table and tax cuts are always on the table, what can a state rely on for new revenue as the price of everything rises? Economic growth or some clever scheme that makes new revenue look like anything other than an across-the-board tax (hence, the explosion of "fees" fueling state government).

So as an academic exercise, let's challenge the notion of tax cuts. Is there a point when there can be just too many tax cuts?

The discussion has relevance now because of big policy discussions going on in Columbia. Gov. Nikki Haley, who seems to have never seen a tax she likes and who has slammed more borrowing to pay big needs even though she has backed a billion dollars of borrowing, wants more money for roads. But she says she won't approve extra taxes on gas unless there is a commensurate cut in income taxes. In other words in a time where much of state government is funded at levels from a decade ago and hasn't recovered from the effects of the Great Recession, she wants to cut revenues even more and shrink



Andy Brack
Statehouse Report

general government, which would be so draconian that services taxpayers expect would just have to go.

Meanwhile, the state Senate is backing a plan to pay for billions of ignored road needs with extra gas tax money without Haley's tax cut. Haley says she'll veto that plan. And two House members say the whole tax system needs to be reformed by eliminating \$2 billion of annual special-interest tax breaks to fuel needed investments in roads and schools.

But back to the question at hand: Just as it becomes unhealthy to stop eating food — you become anorexic — is it unhealthy to continue to cut taxes, year after year, election after election?

National analysts Katherine Barrett and Rich Greene say the tax cut question is a "tricky game" for states. In a new article for the Council of State Governments, they challenge the notion that tax cuts always lead to improved state economies. Just look at the 20 states with the highest state-local tax burdens, they say. Six are in the Tax Foundation's top 10 New Economy Index, which highlights states likely to have continuing economic health. On the other hand, Kansas, which had some of its largest tax cuts in history in



Hartsville
Messenger
Hartsville, SC
Circ. 6303
From Page:
6
4/1/2015
63276



2012, continues to reel from the impact of lost revenue. Predicted "growth" just did not trickle in.

Barrett and Greene say businesses obviously will locate in states that offer low taxes as long as services are good. But they won't move to or remain in a state where tax cuts impede services that businesses need, such as good roads to truck goods to market. And they won't go where inconsistent tax policy yields fluctuating, unpredictable bills.

"Growing in a state isn't just the function of putting up offices or factories. It requires filling those buildings with men and women who can do the necessary jobs without tons of expensive training and retraining," Barrett and Greene wrote. "The kind of educational system that builds such a workforce isn't cheap. And it's primarily paid for by tax dollars. So, the moment that tax cuts require reducing the quality of K-12 or higher (education), the less competitive a state becomes."

So listen to the message: When tax cuts slash into the marrow of education, as would happen if roads are fueled by a revenue-neutral cut in income taxes, legislators risk making South Carolina less competitive, which means fewer jobs, less growth and a tougher time for everybody.

There is no free lunch to pay for a decade of bad decisions that underinvested in education and roads. If South Carolina wants to move forward, leaders need to be more flexible on tax policy.

Andy Brack is editor and publisher of Statehouse Report. He can be reached at: brack@statehousereport.com.

Marion Star &
Mullins
Enterprise
Marion, SC
Circ. 3842
From Page:
7
4/1/2015
63186

148 Speaker seeks apology from Gov. Haley

Speaker of the House Jay Lucas (R) Darlington addressed the entire House body this week calling for Gov. Nikki Haley to apologize for comments made while speaking to the SC Realtors who were in Columbia. She angered the speaker and a majority of House members when she told the realtors, you will need a "good shower" after visiting the State House. Because I know many of you are going to the State House which I love, just make sure you take a good shower when you leave, stated Haley. She continued, legislators don't feel the burn like we do and they don't remember what it was like when you go through days without a sale. They don't remember what it means to truly live day to day.

Speaker Lucas was joined at the speaker's well by majority leader Bruce Bannister (R) Greenville and minority leader Todd Rutherford (D) Richland. Lucas called the Governor's remarks unwarranted and unprovoked. Additionally, he said her comments were inappropriate when speaking of lawmakers who include retired educators, Vietnam veterans, working mothers, and

and not name calling, not middle school insults that serve no purpose but to poison the well.

House budget Chairman, Brian White (R) Anderson said the governor's comments were insulting.

Rep Jim Merrill (R) Berkeley and former majority leader said Haley is contradicting herself after criticizing Rep Rutherford for his comments calling her a selfish vindictive narcissist while we were debating the House budget two weeks ago. The governor challenged the House budget leaders two weeks ago going statewide telling groups that

the House did not need a credit card to borrow funding for roads and building projects. Rep White and the entire Ways and Means (finance) committee voted 25-0 to finance statewide projects through a bond bill. After hours of debate and discussions, it was decided that the House did not have the votes to override a veto by the governor resulting in no bond bill.

Haley has met resistance in the House with two of her main subjects for 2015, road funding and ethics reform. A majority do not believe her income tax break for a gas tax will provide enough new funding for seriously improving crumbling roads. She has blamed the House for lack of ethics reform and hammered Sen. Hugh Leatherman (R) Florence recently during a stop in Florence saying that he had stalled ethics reform in the Senate. I can testify to you, I join a majority of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that we believe the governor is trying to position herself for an administration position if Republicans win the White House next year. The House is on a two-week break and return on Tuesday, April 14.



WayneGeorge

Update from the House

officials who have contributed in many ways. Lucas said the statements were below her office, we were in serious times with serious issues. These issues demand serious people with serious answers





***GSABusiness
Journal
Greenville, SC
Circ. 10500
From Page:
22
4/6/2015
61432



services.

148

Haley, other Republican governors opposing new ozone limits

Businesses will suffer, and infrastructure projects could slow down if new air pollution rules are not scrapped, Gov. Nikki Haley and 10 other Republican governors wrote in a March letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The regulations proposed last November under the Obama administration would tighten ozone standards in an attempt to provide greater air quality. Ozone is

smog-forming pollution linked to asthma and respiratory illness. Haley and her fellow governors said such rules would slow down economic growth across the country. The governors estimate the proposed standards would cost the equivalent of 1.4 million jobs annually. It would also slow down infrastructure projects and raise their costs, "if not thwart them altogether." The rules would tighten the smog limit to 60 parts per billion, as opposed to the current standard of 75 set under President George W. Bush's administration, which Haley is urging the EPA to keep. The new regulations were proposed in light of a federal court order and will likely be decided upon by fall.



Journal
Williamston, SC
Circ. 3764
From Page:
2
4/1/2015
61249



through my Email address - WilliamO'Dell@scsenate.gov.

148

STATE HOUSE REPORT FROM REP. ANNE J. THAYER House District 9

Dear Friends,

After months of hearings that began last fall by a special House Committee, the House Ways & Means Committee advanced a roads funding bill and sent it to the House floor. The Senate Finance Committee did the same but with a different approach.

The House version works toward accommodating the governor by trimming the state's 16.75 cent per-gallon gas tax to 10.75 cents and shifting funding to a new sales tax paid at the wholesale level on gasoline and diesel fuel. In exchange, an income tax break (averaging \$48 for the average income tax filer) would be offered to offset any higher price at the pump. It is predicted the proposal would bring in an additional \$400 million each year. The bill also calls for a restructuring of SCDOT and the State Infrastructure Bank.



The Senate version would raise \$800 million through a 12-cent gas tax increase and the doubling of various vehicle registration and state license fees. Both bills seek to raise money through very different means yet neither may be able to withstand a threatened veto from Gov. Haley. The Governor has been highly vocal on this

issue stating she will not support increasing gas taxes without corresponding income tax relief.

Personally this whole argument is so insane I can't even believe we are having it. Gas tax should not be tied to income tax. Higher gas taxes will have the largest impact on low wage earners and retirees and adjusting the income tax will not benefit either of those groups. We need to address gas tax and income tax reduction, but not together as they are two separate issues. First of all let me say, I strongly support an income tax reduction. My main goal as a legislator is to make government as efficient as possible so we can keep more of our hard earned money. Obviously the roads need to be fixed, but several safeguards need to be put into place prior to spending an additional \$400 to \$800 million annually to the SCDOT. For starters, an external audit would be in order. A review of SCDOT's regulations, procurement practices, personnel structure and an audit by the Inspector General to investigate areas of waste are also necessary steps. For years there have been issues with this agency. It is time to quit putting band-aids on the problem and revamp the SCDOT from top to bottom. Efficiency, transparency and a clear plan for the future is needed before additional funding is put into place.

One of the most unusual votes this week was the defeat of a bill that would have allowed the voters of SC to decide if the Governor should appoint the Superintendent of Education. In our state, we elect many of our constitutional officers as opposed to other states where many of those positions are appointed by the Governor. As you will recall, last November SC voters chose to have the Governor appoint the Adjutant General. This week the House voted on a similar proposal that would have allowed voters to decide on a Constitutional amendment whether the Superintendent of Education should be appointed rather than elected. Although the measure got a majority of the votes, it required two-thirds of the votes to be placed on the ballot in November of 2016.

Ending with good news - Continental Tire is planning to double the capacity of its Sumter plant to eight million tires annually over the next six years. The plant currently employs 625 people and will hire another 200 before the end of the year. It is exciting to see all the growth taking place in our state!!

As always, I appreciate the opportunity of serving you.
Rep. Anne Thayer



The Morning
News
Florence, SC
Circ. 35092
From Page:
5
4/3/2015
61050



148

**Almost 3,200 SC
Boeing workers
eligible in union vote**

SUMMERVILLE — Gov. Nikki Haley says she will keep urging South Carolina Boeing workers to reject a union in the weeks before this month's union vote.

Area media outlets report that Haley spoke against the Machinists union during a Wednesday appearance in Summerville. Haley has said South Carolina workers don't need a middleman between them and their employers.

From wire reports