

Title: **Lawmakers pass bill banning abortion after 19 weeks in SC**  
 Author: BY SEANNA AD COX Associated Press  
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 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



# Lawmakers pass bill banning abortion after 19 weeks in SC

BY SEANNA ADCOX  
 Associated Press

## COLUMBIA

The South Carolina Legislature passed a bill Tuesday prohibiting abortion after 19 weeks, becoming the 17th state to pass the restrictive ban.

The legislation will now head to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. The Republican said in March she will almost certainly sign it but wants to look at the details once it reaches her desk.

Similar laws are in effect in 12 states. They've been blocked by court challenges in three others, and the U.S. Supreme Court has yet to rule on the ban's constitutionality. A South Dakota law signed in March takes effect this summer.

In Utah, a related law, also signed in March, requires doctors to provide anesthesia to a fetus at least 20 weeks in the womb.

The South Carolina bill is among several fronts abortion rights supporters say make having the procedure tougher. Abortion opponents have also

passed laws in other states requiring clinics to get admitting privileges for doctors and banning a procedure commonly used in the second trimester, known as an evacuation method.

The South Carolina House approved the bill 79-29. The Senate approved a compromise in March.

The ban allows exceptions only if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb. The measure's limited definition of "fetal anomaly" means it would be illegal to abort a fetus with a severe disability if the child could live.

Such anomalies are generally detected around 20 weeks.

That "fetal anomaly" exception was crucial for the bill clearing the Senate, where Democrats had blocked the legislation for years.

Sen. Brad Hutto, a leading opponent, still believes it should be the woman's choice. But he called the compromise "the best we can get."

Only four of the 16 states to pass the restrictions since 2010 allow a legal abortion if a doctor determines the child will be stillborn or die upon birth. South Carolina legislators borrowed the wording for that exception from Georgia, where state court blocked enforcement of Georgia's 20-week ban in 2012.

The South Carolina bill, like most of the similar laws, contains no exceptions for rape or incest.

Supporters believe a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks. Opponents argue such later-term abortions involve wanted pregnancies that go horribly wrong, and politicians should play no role in the difficult decision.

"They are wanted pregnancies, but they find out there is a terrible abnormality," Rep. James Smith, a Democrat, said Tuesday. "Wouldn't it be interesting

if we take dollar-for-dollar the money we're going to spend litigating unconstitutional bills and put it into something that makes a difference in South Carolina?"

On average, fewer than 30 abortions yearly are performed at 20 weeks gestation or beyond, according to data since 1990 from the state's public health agency.

The ban would affect only hospitals. None of the three abortion clinics in South Carolina provide abortions beyond 15 weeks.

Title: **Gov. Haley vetoes bill to give \$40M in aid to farmers**  
 Author: BY JEFFREY COLLINS Associated Press  
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# Gov. Haley vetoes bill to give \$40M in aid to farmers

BY JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press  
 COLUMBIA

Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill Monday that would send \$40 million in aid to South Carolina farmers, saying farmers may complain loudly, but don't need a bailout that isn't being offered to all small businesses.

The veto sets up an override showdown with the House and Senate, which each passed the bill by wide margins. It also angers farmers who said the governor

promised she had their backs during much less damaging flooding three years ago.

Haley said last week her heart breaks for farmers wiped out when up to 2 feet of rain fell in 12 hours in October over wide parts of South Carolina.

But the governor said farmers have plenty of options to pay for most of their losses, including crop insurance and a number of other

federal programs that can pay for lost yields or to prepare damaged fields for the next planting.

"By any measure the current financial support we give to farmers is extraordinary, but a vocal industry has asked for more taxpayer dollars to bail them out," Haley wrote in her veto message.

The farmers have rallied at the Statehouse saying

federal aid was not enough after October's catastrophic floods. The deluge came

**SEE FARM BILL, 10A**

## OBITUARIES

Denise Stevens Dixon  
 Bernard Guskind  
 Frances Ilean Liva  
 Winfred D. McDowell  
 Joan Dickens Smith  
 Fred Monroe Tiece  
 See obituaries, **Page 8A**

## FARM BILL

**FROM PAGE 3A**

after several months of drought wiped out another round of crops.

The \$40 million proposal would allow farmers in disaster-declared counties to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 each, covering no more than 20 percent of their total loss.

The governor said tens of thousands of other people in South Carolina have already started recovering with aid from public and private sources and urged the Legis-

lature to not overturn her veto.

The original bill passed the House 95-6 and the Senate 33-3 - majorities well over the two-thirds needed to make the bill law over her objections.

Haley's veto threat was especially painful for farmers like John Pendarvis of Dorchester County. He has had a string of bad luck with the weather, starting back in 2013 when a wet summer left him with little from his corn, cotton and soybeans

crops.

Haley came to Pendarvis' farm in August 2013. "You are seeing a farming community in crisis," Haley said back then. "What we are here to do is show we have the backs of our famers."

The October flood wiped out just about everything Pendarvis was growing.

Farmers reported nearly \$400 million in losses in 2015, compared to \$61 million paid in federal crop insurance payments in 2013.

"When she was running for re-election, she promised

to help. Now she's backed-along on me," Pendarvis said.

And Haley's reasoning that farmers shouldn't get help not offered to other small businesses after the flood also didn't sit well with the leader of the South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce.

"Our small businesses want our farmers, who contribute to the economic health of our state, to recover. They don't begrudge farmers from receiving

Title: **Farm-aidveto a bad idea**  
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## Farm-aid veto a bad idea

Earlier this month, the General Assembly passed a bill to give \$40 million to farmers for relief. The votes weren't close. Near the end of April, a bill passed in the Senate by a vote of 33-3. The bill sailed through the House on May 4 by a vote of 85-2. That makes the chances of overriding a veto good, but (Gov. Nikki) Haley doesn't care.

She said early this week that she would veto the bill because "it would be wrong to bail out the farmers when we can't bail out small businesses, when we can't bail out homeowners."

But farmers aren't your ordinary businessmen. Every year they risk most of what they have against natural forces that they can't control. Sometimes they don't get enough rain. Last year, they got too much. ...

Failing to help sustain the state's agriculture industry could mean not only that many farmers could go out of business but also that many potential young farmers will be discouraged from undertaking the risks of farming in the first place.

— Morning News  
Florence

Title: **Haley vetoes bill to give \$40M in aid to farmers**  
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# Haley vetoes bill to give \$40M in aid to farmers

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill Monday that would send \$40 million in aid to South Carolina farmers, saying farmers may complain loudly, but don't need a bailout that isn't being offered to all small businesses.

The veto sets up an override showdown with the House and Senate, which each passed the bill by wide margins. It also angers farmers who said the governor

promised she had their backs during much less damaging flooding three years ago.



**NIKKI  
HALEY**

Haley said last week her heart breaks for farmers wiped out when up to 2 feet of rain fell in 12 hours in October over wide parts of South Carolina.

But the governor said farmers have plenty of options to pay for most of their losses, including crop insurance and a number of other federal

programs that can pay for lost yields or to prepare damaged fields for the next planting.

"By any measure the current financial support we give to farmers is extraordinary, but a vocal industry has asked for more taxpayer dollars to bail them out," Haley wrote in her veto message.

The farmers have rallied at the Statehouse saying federal aid was not enough after October's catastrophic floods. The deluge came after several months of drought wiped out another round of crops.

The \$40 million proposal would allow farmers in disaster-declared counties to apply

for grants of up to \$100,000 each, covering no more than 20 percent of their total loss.

The governor said tens of thousands of other people in South Carolina have already started recovering with aid from public and private sources and urged the Legislature to not overturn her veto.

The original bill passed the House 95-6 and the Senate 33-3 — majorities well over the two-thirds needed to make the bill law over her objections.

## Opinion on the veto

■ Columnist gives take on Haley's veto on **Viewpoints**, 6A

Title: **Gov. Haley wrong not to help farmers**  
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## Gov. Haley wrong not to help farmers

Gov. Nikki Haley doesn't object when the state offers special tax incentives to attract new business and industry to the state. So it's hard to understand why she would veto state efforts to lend a helping hand to farmers after they suffered \$330 million in losses because of a massive flood.

South Carolina farmers said 2015 ranks among the worst years ever for them. The S.C. Department of Agriculture reported the state's entire cotton, soybean and peanut crops were destroyed by an October flood that covered much of the state. Then, with the wet weather continuing into 2016, many farmers were unable to plant a full crop in the spring because of standing water.

The state's farmers have access to federal crop insurance and emergency low-interest loans, but that aid does not come close to covering their entire losses. Farmers hit by last year's flood had hoped the state also would provide some relief.

This month, the General Assembly passed a bill to give \$40 million to farmers to help them recover. Farmers in disaster-declared counties could request grants of up to \$100,000 to cover up to 20 percent of their 2015 crop losses.

Haley, who argues that farmers should be treated no differently from other small business owners, has vetoed the bill. But the comparison is fundamentally unfair: farmers aren't ordinary small businessmen.

Unlike the average business owner, farmers are at the mercy of the weather year in and year out. A typical small business might make an insurance claim now and then, but farmers could be hit by several years of crop-destroying weather in a row.

We reward farmers for enduring the uncertainties of trying to plant and harvest a crop because agriculture is regarded as a necessity to the nation's well being. And it also is a mainstay of South Carolina's economy.

Failing to help sustain the state's agriculture industry could mean not only that many farmers could go out of business but also that many potential young farmers will be discouraged from undertaking the risks of farming in the first place. That would be bad news for the poorer rural parts of the state where farming remains a vital part of the local economy.

The state's farm relief bill passed by a vote of 85-2 in the House and 33-3 in the Senate. Those majorities are well over the two-thirds needed to override a veto by Haley, and we hope lawmakers exercise that prerogative if necessary.

The state routinely provides an array of perks and privileges to prospective businesses. We should be just as attentive to the needs of the agriculture industry that already contributes substantially to the state's economy.

— *The Herald of Rock Hill*

Title: **SEC women's basketball tournament returning to Greenville again**  
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GWINN DAVIS MEDIA

The Southeastern Conference awarded the 2017 SEC Women's basketball tournament to Greenville. SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey along with governor Nikki Haley made the announced Monday at a press conference at Bon Secours Wellness Arena.

## SEC women's basketball tournament returning to Greenville again

Associated Press

GREENVILLE — The Southeastern Conference women's basketball tournament is returning to Greenville next season, the first pre-determined NCAA post-season event held in the state since the removal of the Confederate flag from statehouse grounds last summer.

Officials from the league and the Bon Secours Wellness Arena announced the site of the 2017 event Mon-

day. The tournament was last held at the arena in 2005.

South Carolina has won the past two SEC tournaments and Gamecocks coach Dawn Staley said she looks forward to trying for a third trophy close to home.

The NCAA had banned the state from holding pre-determined events because of the Confederate flag. Lawmakers voted to take down the flag following the killing of nine people at Emanuel AME Church last June.

Title: **SEC makes it official: Women's tourney coming to Greenville**  
 Author: BY DAVID CLONINGER dcloninger@thestate.com  
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## SEC BASKETBALL

# SEC makes it official: Women's tourney coming to Greenville

**Gamecocks will have a chance to win third straight title two hours from home**

**Confederate flag coming down opened the door for NCAA events**

**"The Well" seats just under 15,000**

BY DAVID CLONINGER  
 dcloninger@thestate.com  
 GREENVILLE

The seats are burnt orange.

Next March, they'll be garnet and black.

Greenville's Bon Secours Wellness Arena confirmed on Monday what The State first reported last week, and what had been rumored for months – the 2017 SEC Women's Basketball tournament will be held in South Carolina. It's the first pre-determined post-season event to be held in the state since the Confederate flag was removed

from the Statehouse grounds, and opens the door for several other pre-determined conference and NCAA events to be held in South Carolina in the future.

"When the change happened last summer and the flag came down, we had a conversation in our office and with our leadership about the opportunity to return now that one of the hurdles had been removed from the table," SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said. "We had a bit of a map where

we thought we were going to head in 2017, but it was a relatively quick pivot."

The flag coming down immediately lifted the boycott of NCAA pre-determined events in the state (baseball regionals, as well as recent women's basketball regionals, are earned in-season) and Greenville was available for the tournament. The SEC, already contracted in Nashville in 2018 and having been in North Little Rock and Jacksonville the last two years, was quickly contacted by

the city.

"VisitGreenville jumped right on it, along with Bon Secours Center," Mayor Knox White said. "They deserve the lion's share of the credit for not letting any grass grow under their feet on it."

"The biggest thing we had working for us was the success of the 2005 tournament. It was sort of an epic success, the SEC folks said, that they remembered well."

That tournament, won

**SEE SEC, 3B**

## FROM PAGE 1B

# SEC

by Tennessee, brought an estimated 40,000 fans to Greenville. At the time, the state's flagship university was not very strong in women's basketball and had a one-day stay.

Next spring, Dawn Staley's Gamecocks are expected to be heavy favorites to win their third

straight SEC tournament, and the crowds that have routinely packed Colonial Life Arena since her program rose into a national power are expected to make the trip.

"We were here in 2005 and I can recall walking down the street with my

two daughters to come to the games, and we had strong crowds when South Carolina's team maybe wasn't at the same level they are today," Sankey said. "But that's certainly a benefit to Gamecock fans."

"The Well" seats just

under 15,000, and the plan is to curtain off the upper deck and have fans fill the lower bowl. However, the plan changes by demand – if more tickets are sold than the lower

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bowl can accommodate, the upper deck will be opened as general admission seats.

USC fans could give The Well as much of a home-court feel as CLA. It could be the last chance some fans have to see the team before the NCAA tournament – while the Gamecocks are certainly expected to host the first two rounds, they have to earn it. And the next round of NCAA Regionals, like they

were last year, are in far-flung locations (Lexington, Ky.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Stockton, Calif.; and Oklahoma City).

Greenville's walkability in downtown and the amount of restaurants and hotels close by the arena made it a natural fit. Governor Nikki Haley, also in attendance, pointed out how many schools beside USC are in driving distance (Georgia and Tennessee are two hours

away, Auburn, Alabama, Kentucky and Vanderbilt are within six) and the Charlotte airport is close by, with Greenville-Spartanburg International offering flights to and from Atlanta.

"This, to us, is going to be the best of many that you're going to start to see in South Carolina. That makes us very excited," Haley said. "Let's be clear – we are going to throw

the best 2017 SEC Women's Basketball tournament that the SEC has ever seen. We're going to do it in such a way that they're going to want to come back."

Which only left one question. Who would Haley, a Clemson graduate, be pulling for?

"You know what?," she asked. "If Dawn Staley is up there, I'm going to be cheering for my Carolina girls."



DAVID CLONINGER

After rumors for months, the SEC announced its women's basketball tournament is coming to Greenville.

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GWINN DAVIS GWINN DAVIS MEDIA

South Carolina governor Nikki Haley talks during a Monday press conference in Greenville after the state learned that the Southeastern Conference awarded the 2017 SEC Women's Basketball Tournament to Greenville, S.C. Greenville previously hosted the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament in 2005.

Title: **Haley vetoes bill S.C. farm bill for \$40 million in aid**  
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## GOVERNMENT

# Haley vetoes bill S.C. farm bill for \$40 million in aid

BY JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press  
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other federal programs that can pay for lost yields or to prepare damaged fields for the next planting.

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And Haley's reasoning that farmers shouldn't get help not offered to other small businesses after the flood also didn't sit well with the leader of the South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce.

"Our small businesses want our farmers, who contribute to the economic health of our state, to recover. They don't begrudge farmers from receiving funds available to them," chamber president Frank Knapp Jr. said.

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### **Farm-aid veto a bad idea**

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*- Morning News  
Florence*

Title: **Haley turns her back on Horry farmers**

Author:

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## LEAD LETTER OF THE WEEK

# *Haley turns her back on Horry farmers*

And the saga continues. In Tuesday's issue of The Sun News, the headline reads, "Farmers: Haley's aid bill veto shows she doesn't back them." While telling the farmers in Horry County and throughout the state that she has their back, there seems to be no visible evidence that the posterior is in her immediate proximity.

The Horry County farmers lost over \$9 million in the October deluge which caused crop devastation. The South Carolina Legislature passed a bill week to provide \$40 million in state aid to farmers in South Carolina devastated by last year's floods. Gov. Nikki Haley's position on the passage of the bill is that she will veto it when it crosses her desk. She had previously not acted on federal aid for the farmers.

In a previous letter I wrote that on Jan. 22 about 100 farmers met with U.S. Rep. Tom Rice and other Horry County officials at the Hor-

ry County courthouse to talk about their concerns and their efforts to collect flood assistance. It was also at this meeting that Rice said,

"The governor is our friend. I think she'll make the right decision...I don't think that getting into a war of words is in anybody's best interest here."

Outside of the meeting there was discussion on how applying for federal funds would impact Governors Haley's chances for a post-term position at The Heritage Foundation, a conservative research think tank based in Washington, D.C.

This Jan. 22 meeting resulted in a Jan. 26 meeting with Rice, state Agriculture Secretary Hugh Weathers, an official with the

Farm Bureau, and Governor Haley to discuss the plight of the farmers in Horry County and other farmers in South Carolina.

Her response to this meeting was that she would "consider it."

Only the governor can submit the Community Block Grant application for federal funding for the farmers, and the result of this meeting was that it would only be considered.

So not only did Governor Haley not apply for the federal aid through the Community Block Grant program, she is planning on a veto for state aid for the farmers through the bill passed by the South Carolina Legislature.

Sometimes we take people at their word when they say they will help and trust and honesty become believable when someone is running for public office, but once the oath is taken, short-term and even long-term memory loss may occur. Someday maybe she will find the farmers' back. But not today.

What did we get wrong about Governor Haley?

*The writer lives in Myrtle Beach.*