



South Carolina Legislative Update for week ending April 12, 2013

Both chambers returned to the State House this week after a two week furlough. Joseph Von Nessen, a research economist with the University Of South Carolina Moore School Of Business, was contracted by the South Carolina Hospital Association to determine how many jobs Medicaid Expansion would bring to South Carolina. Von Nessen projects Medicaid Expansion to provide an additional 44,000 jobs.

Access to Care: The House voted not to expand Medicaid. The Senate is not expected to vote favorable for expansion. The Governor has said that she would veto any bills that passed. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director Tony Keck presented the DHHS budget request to the Senate Finance Health and Human Services Budget Subcommittee this week. Keck discussed the alternative plan to health care expansion.

H.3096 Enact the Healthcare Freedom Act, has passed the House and currently resides in the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee awaiting a subcommittee hearing.

H. 3355 Prohibiting South Carolina from Expanding Medicaid currently resides in the House Ways and Means Committee awaiting a subcommittee hearing.

Tobacco Control and Smoke Free: ACS CAN South Carolina is working to protect \$5 million for Tobacco Prevention and Cessation that was created by the 2010 cigarette tax fund. The budget passed by the House requires \$1 million must be used for the Best Chance Network and \$1 million must be used for Colorectal Cancer Awareness/Protection initiatives by the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

S. 566 Taxation on little cigars, roll your own, and pipe tobacco resides in the Committee on Finance.

Breast and Cervical Funding: ACS CAN South Carolina will continue to advocate for \$2 million from sources other than the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation fund. The Best Chance Network has not been funded at the state level since 2010.

H. 3236 Cervical Cancer Prevention Act introduced by Rep. Sellers (D- Bamberg) would allow DHEC to offer the cervical cancer vaccination series to any students entering the seventh grade in any public or private school on a voluntary basis. The bill resides in the House awaiting a second reading.

Colorectal Cancer: ACS CAN South Carolina continues to advocate for funding for colorectal cancer screenings in the amount of at least \$500,000 while protecting the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Fund.

For more information, please visit: www.acscan.org/southcarolina or contact Nancy Cheney, Government Relations Director: 803.750.1693 or nancy.cheney@cancer.org

Raffle Law in South Carolina: S.213 and S.239 Allow Charitable Raffles/Constitutional Amendment received second and third readings this week in the House and were enrolled for ratification.

Nutrition and Physical Activity: The Department of Health and Human Services is charged with coordinating a multi-agency initiative to combat obesity in the state. ACS CAN South Carolina continues to monitor activity on Nutrition and Physical Activity while working with coalition partners such as Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina and the South Carolina Medical Association Childhood Obesity Task Force.