



South Carolina Legislative Update Year Ending 2013

The first year of a two year session ended on June 27th with the General Assembly overriding several of the Governor's vetoes. The General Assembly now stands adjourned Sine Die until January 14th, 2014.

Medicaid Expansion:

Medicaid Expansion was one of the most debated items on the 2013 agenda this year. Neither the House nor the Senate was able to pass any bills regarding Medicaid Expansion. The Governor said she would veto anything that came across her desk with regards to Medicaid Expansion. There were several attempts to reshape what expansion would look like in South Carolina but those bills were not taken seriously and failed to move anywhere this year. There were also two bills that would nullify the Affordable Care Act. Those were stalled for the year.

Tobacco Control and Smoke Free: The \$5 million for Tobacco Prevention and Cessation that was created by the 2010 cigarette tax fund remains intact for 2013. The General Assembly passed a bill that would regulate e-cigarettes relating to the sale or purchase of tobacco products by youth. This bill was not supported by ACS CAN because it is a weak bill. A tax on e-cigarettes was discussed briefly and quickly set aside to be discussed at a later time if reintroduced.

Breast and Cervical Funding: The General Assembly included \$1 million in the State budget for the NBCCEDP program that is operated in South Carolina as the Best Chance Network. The Governor vetoed the request but the veto was overridden. The Best Chance Network has not been funded at the state level since 2010. A bill that would allow the state health department (DHEC) to offer the HVP vaccine to rising 7th graders in public schools in the state on a voluntary basis was stalled for the year.

Colorectal Cancer: The General Assembly included \$500,000 for colorectal cancer screenings in the budget for 2014 after much debate and a veto from the Governor. The money will be given to the University of South Carolina Center for Colorectal Cancer Research.