



South Carolina Legislative Update Week Ending June 8, 2012

In the twenty-second and final week of the regular 2012 legislative session, the General Assembly bid a fond farewell to retiring members of the Senate and House of Representatives while the conference committees on the restructuring bill and retirement reform bill stalled. A Sine Die Resolution was adopted by both chambers which allows the General Assembly to convene in special session at noon on Tuesday, June 19th and adjourn no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 21st unless called back by the Speaker of the House and President Pro Tempore of the Senate for specific matters. Per the Sine Die Resolution, any legislation not placed in conference by 5:00 p.m. June 7th is null and void.

Appropriations: Our primary appropriations asks are recurring funding for the state's tobacco prevention and control program, breast and cervical cancer screenings through the Best Chance Network (BCN) and colorectal cancer screenings.

The Senate upheld \$5 million in funds for the state tobacco prevention and control program from the cigarette tax revenue. It approved \$2 million dollars in recurring funds from the General Fund for the Best Chance Network (BCN) and the Screening Colonoscopies on People Everywhere (SC SCOPE) program.

However as expected, the House budget amendment adopted yesterday included the same proviso language that the Senate ruled out of order regarding cigarette tax revenue funding BCN / CRC (SC SCOPE).

Amend the bill further, as and if amended, Part IB, Section 22, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, page 396, paragraph 22.47, lines 31-33, by striking the paragraph in its entirety and inserting:

/ 22.47. (DHEC: Best Chance Network & Colorectal Cancer Awareness/Prevention) Section 11-11-230(A) of the 1976 Code is suspended for Fiscal Year 2012-13. There is created in the State Treasury the Smoking Prevention and Cessation Trust Fund. This fund is separate and distinct from the general fund of the State and all other funds. Earnings and interest on this fund must be credited to it and any balance in this fund at the end of the fiscal year shall be carried

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forward in the fund from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year. Of the five million dollars transferred from the Smoking Prevention and Cessation Trust Fund to the Department of Health and Environmental Control the Department, \$1,000,000 shall be used for the Best Chance Network and \$1,000,000 shall be used for Colorectal Cancer Awareness/Prevention. /

The budget is going to conference committee, and we will put a strategy together to try to keep the Senate version of the budget.

Smoke-Free: Smoke-Free Higher Ed Campuses- H.4092 was ratified on Tuesday, and Governor Haley has until midnight next Monday, June 11th to sign, veto or allow the bill to become law without her signature.