

Legislative Updates of interest for Higher Education Week of Mar. 2-6, 2009

Budget Update:

The budget bill, [H.3560](#), was received by the House on Tuesday. The Ways and Means Committee briefed House members on the budget in a meeting held after session.

In the House –

[H.3664](#), relating to provisions of the higher education revenue bond act, was introduced and placed on the calendar without reference. By the end of the week, [H.3616](#), to create the York Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority was approved and sent to the Senate for consideration.

The Higher Education Subcommittee of House Education and Public Works committee met on Wednesday and received a briefing by college and university representatives on [H.3365](#), the Higher Education Efficiency and Administrative Policies Act, which currently resides in the House Ways and Means Committee. The briefing was for informational purposes. The subcommittee also considered and voted to adjourn debate on [H.3103](#) relating to a program that would enable students, who are enrolled in a state sponsored adult education program and meet certain requirements, to take the GED free of charge. Under H.3103, funding for the program would be provided from funds appropriated from the lottery for scholarship programs.

In the Senate –

Several bills were introduced including: [S.501](#), a proviso codification bill for 2009, which was referred to Senate Finance; [S.517](#), which was also referred to Senate Finance and relates to the approval of fees and finances; and [H.3616](#), the York Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority, which was referred to Senate Education. [S.97](#) relating to changes to the Central Carolina Technical College Commission was given second reading.

*** Bill numbers are linked to the SC General Assembly page. The link should go to the most recent version of the bill.*

Reminder: The above report is not intended to be all inclusive. For additional information on legislation referenced above and other legislation relating to higher education, see CHE's website at

<http://www.che.sc.gov/Home/CHELegislativeUpdates/LegislativeSession2009.aspx> . Detailed information on the 2009 Session of the General Assembly may be access at www.scstatehouse.gov or from links included on CHE's website.