

Legislative Updates of interest for Higher Education: Week of Jan 18-22, 2016

(Highlighted & bolded text is linked to source. Bill numbers go to the most recent version on the SC General Assembly website, www.scstatehouse.gov. This report is not intended to be all inclusive. For additional information on the 2016 session, see SC General Assembly website. For information reports on CHE's website, [Click Here](#))

In the House

- On Wednesday, the Higher Education Subcommittee of the House Higher Education and Public Works Committee met and took up [H.4639](#) relating to authority for CHE and higher education institutions to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement related to postsecondary distance education. The subcommittee voted to pass the legislation out favorably to the full House Education and Public Works Committee for consideration.
- House Ways and Means Higher Education and Technical College Budget Subcommittee continued its meetings during the week and heard from Francis Marion University, the College of Charleston, the University of South Carolina, and The Citadel. The subcommittee is chaired by [Rep. Jim Merrill](#) who is joined on the subcommittee by Reps. [Gilda Cobb-Hunter](#) and [Phillip Lowe](#).
- Legislation of interest regarding higher education introduced in the House during the week included: [H.4716](#), referenced as the School Protection Officer Act, was introduced and referred to the House Education and Public Works Committee. For information on legislation of interest relating to higher education in 2016, [Click Here](#).

In the Senate

- On Thursday, Mr. Devron Edwards of Chapin was announced as a new appointment to the Commission on Higher Education to fill a statewide at-large seat. The appointment, which must be confirmed by the Senate, was referred to Senate Education for consideration. ([Senate Journal Jan 21](#))

Other

- Governor Haley delivered her 2016 State of the State address in a joint session of the House and Senate on January 20, 2016. The text of her remarks are included in the House and Senate Journals for January 20. [Click Here](#) to access a copy of her remarks as printed in the House Journal.