

Legislative Updates of Interest for Higher Education: Week of May 9-13, 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

- The House did not meet during the week and will adjourn in session next on Tuesday, May 17.

In the Senate

- The Senate acted on several bills that had been advanced from the House relating to K-12 and the Abbeville decision including: [H.4936](#) relating to the profile of a high school graduate (amended and returned to the House), [H.4940](#) relating to the State Department of Education Office of Transformation (passed and enrolled for ratification), and [H.4939](#) relating to the review by the State Department of Education of its legislation in Title 59 (given second reading), and [H.4937](#) relating to the re-establishment of the EEDA coordinating council (committee amendment adopted and carried over).
- On Thursday, the Senate received the notice of an appointment from the Governor to CHE. The appointment is an initial appointment of Kenneth W. Kirkland to commence July 1, 2016 and to expire July 1, 2020 for the at-large seat currently held by Clark B. Parker. The appointment must be screened by Senate Education and approved by the Senate. ([See Senate Journal, May 12](#))
- The Senate Education Committee met on Wednesday and considered several bills including:
 - o [H.4512](#), Tucker Hipps Transparency Act, relating to colleges and universities and reporting by fraternities and sororities. The bill was retained in committee for further consideration. It is expected that the bill will be heard again during the next meeting of the committee which is anticipated on May 25.
 - o [H.3151](#) relating to the teaching of the U.S. Constitution and founding documents by public colleges and universities. This bill was passed out of committee favorably with an amendment adopted as recommended by the subcommittee. On Thursday, the bill was received by the Senate and placed on the calendar.
 - o Other bills considered by Senate Education included [H.5024](#) relating to SDE and reading/literacy coaches, [H.5140](#) relating to the school opening date with amendments relating to college and career readiness assessments, [S.1204](#) relating to physical education instruction, and [H.4774](#) relating to first steps reauthorization. The committee voted to pass these bills out of committee for consideration of the Senate.
- The Senate Education Higher Education Subcommittee met on Thursday and continued its review of [H.4145](#) relating to the establishment of a Workforce Coordinating Council and related responsibilities and requirements. The subcommittee voted to report the bill out of subcommittee with amendments to be considered by full committee at its upcoming meeting expected to be scheduled on May 25.

For information on other bills of interest under consideration during the 2015-2016 Session, [CLICK HERE](#)