



LEAD 2021

Providing Leadership in Uncertain Times

January 23rd, 9-12:30, all virtual via ZOOM

9:00 Welcome	Holley Ulbrich
9:15 Standing in the Doorway <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrap up on election related issues• Preview for the General Assembly Q&A submit through chat	Lynn Teague
10:00 Next steps in redistricting	Matt Saltzman and Shayna Howell
10:15 Plutonium pits	Suzanne Rhodes
10:30 Crossing the Digital Divide Technology and Access The Challenge in Rural Districts The Challenge in Teaching and Learning	Sally McGarry, Moderator Jim Stritzinger, Revolution D, Inc. J.R. Green, Fairfield County Superintendent Sarah Schumacher Gams, SC Teacher of the Year
Q&A submit through chat	
12:00 DEI update	Hannah Parker
12:20 Reminders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program planning• Convention	
12:30 Adjourn	

LWVSC BILLS OF INTEREST 2019
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020

The following list of bills includes many that will never move through the legislative process. It includes bills within the LWVSC areas of concern; but listing does not imply high priority for LWVSC. The list far exceeds LWVSC advocacy capacity and the LWVSC board will act to determine priorities. Further information on this process is available at <https://my.lwv.org/south-carolina/advocacy>.

In some cases, the League position is an obvious binary choice (support/oppose). Also, some closely parallel bills filed in the past and we have an established position, and some were filed with the support of coalitions of which the League is a member. In those cases, the right-hand column “S/O” has been filled out. However, many bills are complex, or novel, and require additional analysis before classification. Please do NOT read anything into the absence of a classification in that column. In some cases, the bills will not even be fully evaluated unless there is evidence that they may advance, since the League does not have the capacity to fully evaluate the implications of hundreds of bills.

For full text and legislative history of listed bills, see WWW.SCSTATEHOUSE.GOV. Bills may be accessed in several ways, including search by bill number or keyword.

Elections and Voting

Bill No.	PRIMARY Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3034	Garvin	Voting rights restoration		S
H. 3048	King	Voting rights restoration		S
H. 3187	Cobb-Hunter	Presidential popular vote compact		S
H. 3189	Cobb-Hunter	Procedures for voting by mail		
H. 3189	Cobb-Hunter	Election by mail		
H. 3199	Rose	Eliminate straight party voting		
H. 3203	Rutherford	in person and mail early voting for presidential primaries		
H. 3206	Taylor	prohibit multi-party candidates		
H. 3257	Blackwell	SC Gen. Assembly term limits		O

H. 3259	Cox	SC Gen. Assembly term limits		O
H. 3261	Fry et al	Prohibit multi-party candidates		
H. 3262	Fry et al	Partisan primary requirements		O
H. 3265	Fry et al	Voluntary partisan voter registration; not used to restrict voting		
H. 3266	Garvin	Absentee ballot tabulation day before election		S
H. 3267	Garvin	General Election day a holiday		S
H. 3268	Garvin	Universal early voting		
H. 3270	King	DMV application = auto voter registration		
H. 3275	King	Same day registration and early voting locations		
H. 3372	B. Newton	14-day universal early voting, time for absentee ballot processing, etc.		
H. 3404	Jones	Proof of citizenship for president, vp, candidates		
H. 3410	Long	Absentee ballot processing day ahead of ED		
H. 3444	Lucas	Reconstitute State Election Commission		
H. 3493	Jones	Blockchain voting		
H. 3496	Long	Registration and primary voting only by party		
H. 3519	Alexander`	No excuse absentee voting and procedures		
H. 3525	Hill	Election Fraud		
H. 3533	Thigpen	No-excuse early voting		
H. 3555	Long	Maximum time in voting booth 5 minutes		
S. 008	Jackson	Election Day a state holiday		
S. 009	Jackson	DMV applications = voter registration		
S. 020	Hutto	Sheriff elections (actually a LEO reform bill)		
S. 084	Malloy	Voter ID		
S. 113	Campsen	Authorized representatives in absentee voting		
S. 129	Massey	Transfer SEC to Sec. of State		O
S. 156	Scott	No excuse early voting		

S. 254	Young	Post-election audits and certification		
S. 310	Fanning	Same day voter registration		S
S. 351	McLeod	Voting information for those convicted of crimes		
S. 365	Senn	Voters must verify qualifications for voter registration at least every three years or be removed from the registration list		O

Redistricting

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H.3279	King, Robinson	Independent redistricting commission		S

Constitutional Convention Resolutions and Constitutional Amendment

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3205	Taylor et al	Con con, restrain federal gov		O
H. 3256	Bennett	Amend Constitution, 1895, to permit recall of elected officials, legislative or executive		
H.3258	Cobb-Hunter and Wetmore	ERA	See also Women's Rights	
S. 110	Campsen	Delete Sec. of Agriculture from public election under the Constitution, 1895		
S. 111	Campsen	Delete Comptroller General from public election under Constitution, 1895		
S. 133	Massey	Con con, restrain federal gov		O
S. 141	Massey	Con con, balanced budget only		O
S. 262	Matthews	ERA	See also Women's Rights	
S. 321	Fanning	Change Constitution, 1895, language to providing "high quality education"		
S. 33	Grooms	Con con, restrain federal gov		O
S. 339	McLeod	Term limit amendment to Constitution, 1895		

S. 357	Rice	Joint Committee on Federalism to evaluate federal laws	Not actually constitutional, but hard to know where else to put this oddity	
S. 362	Rice	National Federalism Task Force (includes ALEC, which represents the interests of major corporations that fund the organization) to produce a series of federalism summits	Again, not sure where this should go	
S. 363	Rice	Con con allegedly confined to term limit issue		
S. 384	Cash	Amend Constitution, 1895, to enact term limits for Gen. Assembly members		
S. 39	Grooms	State constitutional amendment by petition and referenda, Constitution, 1895		
S.302	Climer	Term limits under Constitution, 1895		

Racial Justice and Other Justice and Equity; Criminal Justice Reforms related to racial justice

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
	Bernstein	Hate crimes (bipartisan support)	Not yet filed	
H. 3043	King	Hate crimes database at SLED		
H. 3046	King	Diversity training for LEO		
H. 3047	King	LEO mental health evaluation for cert		
H. 3048	King	Voter eligibility info for felons		
H. 3135	Rose	Monument Review Study Committee for State House Grounds		
H. 3188	Cobb-Hunter	Equal Pay		
H. 3225	Garvin	Maternal death rates and bias provisions	Also women's health	S
H. 3238	Garvin and others	Prohibit housing discrimination		
H. 3283	King	Hate crimes bill		
H. 3359	Rose	Remove Tillman statue from SH grounds		

H. 3409	King	Police brutality citizens review committee in every county		
S. 124	Massey and others	Mandatory LEO training standards		
S. 126	Massey and others	Certification of LEOs		
S. 127	Massey and others	Mandatory training for newly appointed chiefs of police		
S. 128	Massey and others	Failure of a LEO to intervene when fellow LEO violates standards defined as misconduct		
S. 14	Jackson	Hate crimes		
S. 171	Allen	Hate crimes		
S. 172	Allen	Hate crimes		
S. 198	Hembree	Hate crimes		
S. 274	Matthews	Repeal of protection of certain monuments and memorials		
S. 275	Matthews	Police misconduct		
S. 285	Matthews	Body camera data FOIA-able		
S. 334	McLeod	Transparency in Justice (juveniles)		
S. 335	McLeod	Decrim. Rec. marijuana, regulates		
S. 336	McLeod	Abuse of 911 for racial complaints		
S. 340	McLeod	Confidentiality of domestic violence nonprofits		
S. 342	McLeod	Implicit bias assessment for LEO		
S. 351	McLeod	Restoration of voting rights		
S. 352	McLeod	Repeals SNAP exclusion for felons		
S. 68	Malloy	Officer involved death reporting		
S. 85	Malloy	Officer involved shooting investigations		
S. 88	Malloy	Murder hate crimes		
S. 89	Malloy	Right to photograph LEOs		
S. 93	Malloy	Counties to establish drug courts		
S. 95	Malloy	Study committee on racial profiling		

Ethics and Accountability

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3197	Newton	Raise campaign contribution limits		
H. 3200	Rose	Local government and lobbying		
H. 3521	Cobb-Hunter	Removal of elected officials due to criminal conviction		
S. 174	Bennett and Leatherman	Dark money		
S. 184	Bennett	Dark money		
S. 187	Hembree	Campaign finance accounting reforms		S
S. 188	Hembree	Outstanding ethics fines prohibit candidacy		S
S. 189	Hembree	Filing campaign bank account statements		S
S. 214	McElveen and Massey	Campaign bank accounts		
S. 300	Climer	Extends dual office holding prohibition to family of Gen. Ass.		
S. 306	Fanning	Prohibition on appointment of campaign donors		
S. 309	Fanning	Ethics Commission monitoring and audit requirements		
S. 311	Fanning	Ethics conviction reimbursement by official		
S. 312	Fanning	Prohibit accepting donations from monopoly utilities		
S. 337	McLeod	Restriction on appointment of Gen. Assembly family members		
S. 375	Talley	Revise Ethics Committee actions after review of SEC recommendations		
S. 394	Harpootlian	Expand powers of Legislative Audit Council		
S. 395	Harpootlian	Explicit ID of expenditures in state budget		
S. 396	Harpootlian	Eliminate FOIA exemption for econ devo.		
S. 398	Harpootlian	Economic development accountability		

Health and Medical Care

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H.3269	Garvin	Ballot referendum on Medicaid Expansion		S

S. 083	Malloy	Advisory referendum on Medicaid Expansion		S
S. 147	Massey	Liability protections for businesses under COVID claims		O
S. 210	McLeod	Health insurance for adults within 130% of poverty line		S

Women's Rights and Reproductive Health

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3163	McCrary et al	Fetal heartbeat		O
H. 3175	Rutherford	Pharmacist administration of birth control		
H. 3183	Brawley	Pay equity		S
H. 3188	Cobb-Hunter	Equal pay for equal work		S
H. 3225	Garvin	Maternal death rates and bias provisions	Also racial justice	S
H. 3258	Cobb-Hunter and Wetmore	ERA		S
H. 3469	Moore	Paid sick leave		S
H. 3508	Bennett	"Life Appropriation Bill" – among other things, defines "secular abortion" and "convenience abortion"		O
H. 3512	Long	Prohibits "fetal anomaly" as abortion justification		O
H. 3560	Bernstein	State employees family leave		S
H. 3568	Magnuson	Personhood		O
S. 001	Grooms et al	Fetal heartbeat	Senate subcommittee 1/14/2021	O
S. 011	Jackson	Family leave		S
S. 151	Davis	Pharmacist prescription of birth control		
S. 262	Matthews	ERA		S
S. 341	McLeod	Compensation of women compelled to complete a pregnancy by fetal heartbeat law		S
S. 381	Cash	Personhood		O
S. 385	Cash	Prohibits use or sale of fetal remains		
S. 399	Garrett	Fetal heartbeat		O

Environment (will expand following info from Conservation Voters)

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
S. 107	Campsen and Climer	Limiting state’s beach preservation policy, adding exceptions		
S. 184	Hembree	Sea turtle protection		
H. 3051	Pendarvis	Early SCDOT planning determination of feasibility of sidewalks, bike paths, high occupancy vehicle lanes, etc.		
H. 3454	Ballentine	Exempt small renewable energy resource properties (equipment) from property taxes		
H. 3515	J. Moore	Require DHEC to promulgate regulation of certain pollutants in waterways		
S. 162	Scott	Pyrolysis-related materials classified as “recovered materials’		
S. 294	Climer and Fanning	Persons and corporations using electric vehicle charging stations are not electric utilities; increase in customer demand from transportation electrification shall not constitute revenues for a utility		

Education (will expand with information from education allies; there are MANY education bills)

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
S. 211	McElveen	State education bank establishment		
H. 3081	Collins and others	Teacher public policy rights		S
H. 3114	Collins and others	Financial support for teacher education		
H. 3240	Collins and Allison	Study on racial and ethnic disparities in education and recommendations for improvement		S
H. 3498	Taylor and others	Repeal constitutional prohibition on public funding of private schools		O
H. 3589	Allison and Lucas	Define “schools of innovation” and exempt them from some requirements		
H. 3590	Allison and Lucas	Hiring noncertified teachers		
H. 3591	Allison and Lucas	Improve evaluation of teaching education programs		
H. 3592	Allison and Lucas	Remove social studies from 3 rd -8 th grade, other changes		

H. 3611	Lucas	Establish workforce and education data oversight committee		
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Utilities and Regulatory Accountability

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3112	Cobb-Hunter	Solar tax credits		
S. 002	Massey	DHEC reorganization		
S. 134	Massey	Allow Governor to remove PSA directors without cause		S
S. 159 S. 343	McLeod	Minimum wage adjustments		S
S. 239	Young	Exempt petroleum pipelines from certain rights and privileges (eminent domain)		S
S. 240	Young	Regulate petroleum pipelines		
S. 301	Climer	Utilities not to recover from ratepayers legal fees for cases in which the utility was convicted of violation		S
S. 344	McLeod	Ratepayer Protection Act, state of emergency		S
PSC 2020-125-E	n/a	Not legislative – Dominion rate case at Public Service Commission as issue in regulatory accountability		

Judiciary

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
H. 3284	Manguson	Gubernatorial appt of judges/justices		O
S. 116	Campsen	Changes in judicial election process		
S. 192	Hembree	Reform JMSC, more citizen members, forward all candidates rather than list of 3		S
S. 292	Climer	Judicial elections		
S. 374	Talley & Kimbrell	Amend Constitution, 1895, to reform judicial selection		

Other

Bill No.	Sponsor	Description	Status	S/O
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H. 3078	Cobb-Hunter	Repeal right to work laws		S
H. 3341	Cobb-Hunter	State minimum wage, \$15/hour		S
H. 3382	King	Raise legislator per diem to \$42,830/year		
H. 3432	Kimmons and Cox	Expanding “stand your ground”		O
H. 3486	Taylor	Virtual sessions during states of emergency		
H. 3579	Hill	Request for bill consideration in House; greatly restricts		O
S. 020	Hutto	Sheriff elections (also listed in elections bill)		
S. 032	Grooms	Guns everywhere including school property		O
S. 071	Malloy	Allow 10 days for gun sale background check		S
S. 103	Campsen and Malloy	Criteria for state of emergency		
S. 120	Campsen	Restrict increase in general fund expenditures		O
S. 130	Massey	Requires Gen. Assembly approval for further COVID state of emergency declarations		O
S. 131	Massey	Restrict use of capital grounds		
S. 155	Martin	Constitutional carry		O
S. 159	Scott and McLeod	State minimum wage		S
S. 338	McLeod	Gen. Assembly term limits		
S. 369	Talley	“Second Amendment Protection Act” claiming to override federal law		O
S. 377	Talley	Sine die and biennial budget		
H. 3094	Cox and others	Open carry of guns without permits		O

Natural Resources: UPDATE ON SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS) WASTES

In the 1950s, 300 square miles of farmland along the Savannah River were condemned for a “bomb” plant. In the early years, the emphasis was on rapid weapons materials production. No environmental regulations were in effect at that time, and no thought was given to future cleanup.

Five of the country’s dirtiest coal plants operated for decades at SRS, even after clean air regulations were established. Initially, the government position was that commercial coal effluent standards didn’t apply to federal facilities; SRS later complied. One operating nuclear plant currently produces energy for the site - no coal plants. Local citizens welcomed the nuclear power plant and its cleaner operations.

SRS past weapons materials productions have been of concern – particularly those operations which released mercury and tritium off site. Columbia is ‘downwind’ of SRS. Messy operations have ceased, at least for the moment, as the focus is now on SRS cleanup.

Although I personally have respect for the technical leadership and technical staff at SRS, politicians and contractors are a problem. Local citizens have blindly supported jobs proposals as presented by DOE and its contractors. The Chambers of Commerce, mayors, county councils, even United Ways, have turned out in droves of unquestioning support, particularly for this most recent plutonium pits proposal.

DOE prime contractors usually operate at SRS on a cost-plus contract, which encourages their involvement in the habitual practice of the Department of Energy (DOE) to begin construction prematurely, with routine design/build, redesign/rebuild escalations of budgets and extensions of schedules. SRS currently employs about 10,000 people. The proposal to produce plutonium “pits,” or cores for nuclear warheads, would reportedly add thousands of new employees.

Pits production at SRS is a totally new mission. I am concerned that this new mission will divert leadership in charge of closing the old tanks of Cold War wastes; new pits wastes will be generated. There is now no clear plan for stabilizing the new pits wastes.

The manufacturing of “plutonium pits” has historically produced pollution, both on site and off site, (including a Superfund site). When the proposal was promoted in SC, the Superfund site wasn’t mentioned – only the local park (as an example of how ‘clean’ the operation had been).

The pits proposal would rededicate the shell of the failed “Mixed Oxide Plant” (MOX) at SRS. The purpose of MOX was to fabricate fuel for commercial reactors from unused weapons materials (fuel that wasn’t welcomed by reactor operators). This was unfortunately a semi-typical proposal in that the French had developed a MOX concept with limited success, and sold an old design to DOE. This benefitted the architectural/engineering firms constructing at SRS on that cost-plus contract. Updated design and construction were necessary for many reasons, many times. Schedules and budgets of MOX ballooned. Finally, the MOX proposal was canceled despite the vigorous and insistent support of contractors and our D.C. delegation.

Similarly, the commercial nuclear power plants SCE&G and Santee Cooper proposed for Monticello (and 2 others in Georgia) were subject to “design/build, redesign/rebuild.” Westinghouse and the power companies wanted to build a new “passively cooled” commercial nuclear reactor ahead of final design or updated regulations. Costs and schedules at Monticello (and Georgia) swelled. The redesigns had to do with 911-related airplane protections of nuclear plants as well as refined designs of this new passive cooling concept.

SCE&G executives lied about the progress, budget, and schedule when they reported to the SC Public Service Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission. Hence the current indictments.

Back to Plutonium Pits and the so-called need for more weapons: Please check the chilling review of Daniel Ellsberg’s recent book, *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, <https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/12/28/doomsday-ex-machina-daniel-ellsberg-and-the-nuclear-gang/>. It explains why we don’t need more warheads, and the dangerous considerations of first-use of nuclear weapons in the US by past presidents (including Jimmy Carter). The possibility of international mistakes and/or considerations are sobering in light of this new information. Ellsberg’s considerations and recommendations are very much in line with LWV/US non-proliferation policies.

Suzanne Rhodes Suzrhodes117@yahoo.com

Natural Resources: PLASTICS - FEELING GREEN? NOT SO FAST

Do you feel “green” when you recycle plastic waste with the following symbol? Not so fast....



The petrochemical plastics industry hopes that you do. They hope that environmentally conscious consumers will feel “green” so that they will continue to buy plastic products because it has the **100% RECYCLABLE** label. Although plastic products with the **100% RECYCLABLE** label may “technically” be recyclable, they will not be recycled if recycling is not economically feasible. An internal 1973 plastics manufacturing report cited in the PBS *Frontline Plastic Wars* concludes that “the cost of new plastic is so low that sorting and reprocessing used plastic cannot be justified economically”.

This conclusion appears as valid 47 years later. According to *Plastic Wars*, it is estimated that 90% of plastic wastes will never be recycled, including plastics embossed with the **100% RECYCLABLE** symbol.

Learn more by watching the PBS Frontline *Plastic Wars* documentary and taking the Plastic Wars quiz. Contact Ted Volskay, SC League of Women Voters Natural Resources, to get a link to the *Plastic Wars* documentary and the *Plastic Wars* quiz. Ted Volskay tvolskay@gmail.com

NOTE: Ted is the new Natural Resources Chair for LWV/SC. He has been with us for decades, but recently his schedule allows him to take on this important leadership role, which will be expanding as SC legislative issues and local League supportive interests suggest. Please contact him with your suggested priorities for study and possible action.



SPEAKERS ON THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



.James R. Stritzinger, Jr. Founder, President & CEO Revolution D, Inc.

Revolution D is a consulting firm that specializes in geospatial artificial intelligence (GeoAI) - especially the deployment of high-speed Internet in rural communities. Mr. Stritzinger is regarded as a national expert in this area and was selected to speak at the IBM Think 2019 conference and present to the US House Rural Broadband Task Force (2019) by Congressman James E. Clyburn.

Mr. Stritzinger has held roles with public, private, academic, non-profit, and entrepreneurial organizations. During his career, he has worked as an engineer/software developer for IBM, General Electric and held senior leadership roles with Solomon/Great Plains Software, Microsoft, SCRA, IT-oLogy, Connect South Carolina, and the University of South Carolina. His career highlights include launching SC's private equity organization (SC Launch, 2005) and a software company (ClearView Software, 1990) which was acquired in 1998 by Solomon and later became part of Microsoft Business Solutions in 2001.

Mr. Stritzinger was selected to join the inaugural class of SC's prestigious Liberty Fellowship (Class of 2006, part of the Aspen Global Leadership Network), and was inducted to the NC State University (NCSU) Electrical and Computer Engineering Alumni Hall of Fame (2015). He holds a BS Electrical Engineering from NCSU and a Master of Health Information Technology from USC and is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).



Dr. J. R. Green Superintendent, Fairfield County School District. Dr. J.R. Green has firsthand knowledge of public education’s digital divide and its impact on student learning. When the state’s schools closed last March due to the pandemic, it was estimated that half of Fairfield County’s families had no broadband internet access.

Dr. Green has served as Fairfield County school superintendent since 2012. He also has been assistant superintendent of curriculum for the Chesterfield County School District. He holds a Ph.D. in Education Administration from the University of South Carolina, where he also earned his master’s and undergraduate degrees. Currently, Dr. Green serves on the S.C. Board of Education and has been named the 2021 District Superintendent of the Year by the S.C. Association of School Administrators (SCASA).



Sarah Schumacher Gams, South Carolina’s 2020 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Gams earned a BA in English at the University of South Carolina’s Honors College and a Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of South Carolina. She partnered with Education First (EF) Tours in 2006 and led nine student tours abroad; she was a keynote speaker for EF in Paris, France. She earned National Board certification in 2007 and re-certified in 2017. Ms. Gams teaches English and serves as department chair at Spring Hill High School in Chapin. She is an adjunct professor for Columbia College. During COVID-19, Ms. Gams advocates for making curriculum and infrastructure decisions through the lens of Trauma Informed Instruction.