



Bills Engineers are interested in during the 122nd SC General Assembly

1.) **Bill Number:** H. 3218 **Bill Subject:** Dam Safety

Bill Sponsors: Lucas, Hiott, V.S. Moss, West, Pitts & Crosby

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 49-11-120, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS UNDER THE DAMS AND RESERVOIRS SAFETY ACT, SO AS TO REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS IN ORDER TO MAKE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT FURTHER APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN DAMS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 49-11-150, RELATING TO DAM OR RESERVOIR OWNERS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFE MAINTENANCE OF THEIR DAMS OR RESERVOIRS, NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OF DAM OR RESERVOIR OWNERSHIP CHANGES, AND EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIED DAM OWNERS, SO AS TO REQUIRE ANNUAL REPORTING TO THE DEPARTMENT BY DAM OR RESERVOIR OWNERS OF CERTAIN OWNER CONTACT AND OTHER INFORMATION, TOGETHER WITH A COMPLETED OWNER CHECKLIST, AND TO REQUIRE THE OWNERS OF DAMS OR RESERVOIRS CLASSIFIED AS A HIGH OR SIGNIFICANT HAZARD ANNUALLY TO PROVIDE A CURRENT EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION OF SPECIFIED OFFICIALS, DOWNSTREAM RESIDENTS, AND BUSINESS OWNERS.

Committee: Senate Ag & NR

Status: 2/7/2017 Introduced in Senate and Referred to Senate Ag & NR Committee

Engineers For/Against : Monitoring

2.) **Bill Number:** S. 5 **Bill Subject:** Dam Inspection

Bill Sponsors: Shealy & McCleod

Bill Summary: TO AMEND SECTION 49-11-240 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE INSPECTION OF DAMS, TO REQUIRE THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO INSPECT ALL DAMS ON WHICH A STATE HIGHWAY TRAVERSES EVEN IF THE DAM DOES NOT MEET THE DEFINITION CONTAINED IN SECTION 49-11-120(4).

Committee: Ag & Natural Resources

Status: Introduced to committee on 1/10/2017

Engineers For/Against : Monitoring

3.) **Bill Number:** H.3340 **Bill Subject:** Dam/SCDOT Repair after Flood

Bill Sponsors: Ott, Cobb-Hunter, & Anderson

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 49-11-235 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE OWNER OF A DAMNEX WHICH FAILS OR FAILED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2015, WHICH HAS A PUBLIC ROAD OR HIGHWAY IN THE STATE HIGHWAY

SYSTEM RUNNING ACROSS THE TOP OF IT, MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL INDICATING WHETHER OR NOT THE OWNER INTENDS TO REPAIR THE PreviousDAMNext AND THE DATE BY WHICH THE REPAIRS ARE ANTICIPATED TO BE COMPLETED, TO PROVIDE THE TIMELINES IN WHICH THIS NOTIFICATION MUST BE PROVIDED, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROCEED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS AND IN A SPECIFIED MANNER WITH THE PROCESS OF REPAIRING THE PUBLIC ROAD OR HIGHWAY, IF THE DAM OWNER INDICATES THE OWNER DOES NOT INTEND TO REPAIR THE DAM

Committee: Senate Ag & NR

Status: Introduced in Senate and sent to Ag & NR Committee 2/7/2017

Engineers For/Against : Monitoring

4.) **Bill Number:** S.004 **Bill Subject:** Revolving fund to operate financial assistance to provide grants to dam owners

Bill Sponsors: Scott & McCleod

Bill Summary: TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO ESTABLISH A REVOLVING FUND TO OPERATE A FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO DAM OWNERS TO CONDUCT ENGINEERING AND SAFETY STUDIES ON THE DAMS

Committee: Ag & Natural Resources

Status: Referred to Committee on 1/10/17

Engineers For/Against : Monitoring

5.) **Bill Number:** H.3237 **Bill Subject:** Secretary of Transportation

Bill Sponsors: Allison, Felder, & Night

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY REPEALING SECTIONS 57-1-460 AND 57-1-470 RELATING TO THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S DUTY TO EVALUATE AND APPROVE ROUTING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUESTS OR EMERGENCY REPAIRS FOR HIGHWAY FACILITIES THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION'S DUTY TO REVIEW THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S REPORT THAT CONTAINS ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND EMERGENCY REPAIR REQUESTS.

Committee: House Committee on Education & Public Works

Status: Roll Call one on 1/26/2017 106 Days 0 Nays . Introduced to Senate 1/31/2017 / Referred to Senate Committee on Transportation 1/31/2017

Engineers For/Against :Pro

6.) **Bill Number:** H. 3238 **Bill Subject:** SCDOT

Bill Sponsors: Allison, Felder

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 57-5-820, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OBTAINING CONSENT FROM A MUNICIPALITY BEFORE PERFORMING WORK ON A STATE HIGHWAY WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY, SO AS TO DELETE A REFERENCE TO SECTION 57-5-830, TO PROVIDE THAT SUCH WORK MUST BE APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPALITY PRIOR TO THE PROJECT'S INCLUSION IN THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND SUBJECT TO THE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON DESIGN FEATURES AND TYPICAL SECTION FOUND IN THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FOR THE PROJECT, AND TO PROVIDE THAT APPROVAL IS NOT REQUIRED FOR WORK PERFORMED ON A BRIDGE THAT QUALIFIES FOR FEDERAL EMERGENCY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT FUNDS; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 57-5-830 RELATING TO THE PROVISION THAT ALLOWS A MUNICIPALITY TO REVIEW AND APPROVE CERTAIN DEPARTMENT

Committee: Education & Public Works

Status: In Committee

Engineers For/Against : Monitoring

7.) **Bill Number:** [S.105](#) **Bill Subject:** Contested cases in the Administrative Law Court (Stay)

Bill Sponsors: Rankin & Goldfinch

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 1-23-600 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO HEARINGS AND PROCEEDINGS IN CONTESTED CASES IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT, TO PROVIDE THAT A STAY OF AN AGENCY ORDER REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR THIRTY DAYS, RATHER THAN FOR AN UNDETERMINED TERM, OR UNTIL AN ORDER HAS BEEN ISSUED REGARDING A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION; TO REVISE THE PROCEDURE FOR STAYS CONCERNING THE REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, OR RENEWAL OF A LICENSE AND PAYMENT OF FINES; TO DELETE THE PROVISION THAT THE COURT SHALL LIFT THE STAY FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN OR IF NO IRREPARABLE HARM WILL OCCUR AND ALSO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT A HEARING MUST BE HELD WITHIN THIRTY DAYS TO LIFT THE AUTOMATIC STAY OR FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICABILITY OF THE AUTOMATIC STAY; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION ORDERED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT MAY REQUIRE THE POSTING OF A BOND OR OTHER SUFFICIENT SECURITY; AND TO EXEMPT STATE AGENCIES FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO POST A BOND UNDER THIS SECTION.

Committee: Judiciary

Status: Referred to House Judiciary 3/13/2017

Engineers For/Against : Pro

8.) **Bill Number:** [S.112](#) **Bill Subject:** Automatic Stay Concerning Licenses

Bill Sponsors: Hembree & Goldfinch

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 1-23-600(H) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO TIMELY REQUESTS FOR CONTESTED CASE HEARINGS, TO ESTABLISH AN AUTOMATIC STAY CONCERNING LICENSE ISSUANCES, RENEWALS AND THE LIKE, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE AUTOMATIC STAY MAY BE LIFTED.

Committee: Judiciary

Status: Sub Committee Chaired by Massey

Engineers For/Against :Monitoring

9.) **Bill Number:** H.3652 **Bill Subject:** PVC Preference Bill

Bill Sponsors: Reps. Forrester, Sottile, V.S. Moss, Clemmons, Allison, Loftis, Burns, Chumley, Jefferson, Mack, Willis, Anderson, Anthony, Ballentine, Duckworth, Henderson, D.C. Moss, Norman, Pitts, S. Rivers, Rutherford, Sandifer and Tallon

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION

11-35-3265 SO AS TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO CONSIDER ALL PIPING MATERIALS FOR DETERMINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS, TO PROVIDE PIPING MATERIALS THAT MEET SUCH REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLY WITH SOUND ENGINEERING PRACTICES MUST BE ALLOWED TO BE CONSIDERED IN RELATED PROCUREMENT BIDDING PROCESSES, AND TO PROVIDE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT LIMIT THE DISCRETION OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES FROM SELECTING PIPING MATERIALS FOR PROJECTS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

Committee: Labor Commerce & Industry

Status: passed third reading 3/21/2017 introduced in Senate referred to Finance

Engineers For/Against: Against

10.) **Bill Number:** S.343 **Bill Subject:** SCDOT reimbursement to utilities that have to relocate lines because of dot construction.

Bill sponsors: Campell

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND ARTICLE 5, CHAPTER 5, TITLE 57 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, BY ADDING SECTION 57-5-880, TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL BEAR COSTS, NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN AND ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS, FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OR IMPROVEMENTS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE SECTION DOESN'T GRANT THE DEPARTMENT THE AUTHORITY TO PREVENT OR MATERIALLY LIMIT A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM'S UTILIZATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN A STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT'S RIGHT-OF-WAY; AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO FACILITATE THE LOCATION OF UTILITIES OUTSIDE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY CURRENTLY CONTAINED IN THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

Committee: Senate Transportation

Status: Introduced 02/01/2017

Engineers For /Against: Monitoring

11.) **Bill Number:** 352 **Bill Subject:** Move the Procurement Service Division to the Dep. Of Admin

Bill Sponsor(s): Massey

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 1-11-10(A) OF THE 1976 CODE OF LAWS, RELATING TO THE

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, TO MOVE THE PROCUREMENT SERVICES DIVISION TO THE DEPARTMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 1-11-20, RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF OFFICES, DIVISIONS, AND OTHER AGENCIES FROM THE STATE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD TO APPROPRIATE ENTITIES, TO REMOVE THE PROCUREMENT SERVICES DIVISION FROM THE STATE FISCAL AFFAIRS AUTHORITY; AND TO AMEND SECTION 11-35-310(2), RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA PROCUREMENT CODE, TO CHANGE REFERENCES TO THE STATE FISCAL AFFAIRS AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION.

Committee: Senate Finance

Status: 02/02/2017 in referred to Senate Finance

12.) **Bill Number:** H. 3649 **Bill Subject:** Portion of Engineers Practice Act reverted to previous version

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Ammons Crawford

Bill Summary: SECTION 1. Section 40-22-280(B)(2) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 259 of 2016, is further amended to read:

“(2) buildings and structures not requiring a permit by the authority having jurisdiction, except that buildings and structures classified as assembly, business, educational, factory and industrial, high hazard, institutional, mercantile, storage, and utility occupancies or uses in the International Code Series, as adopted by the State of South Carolina, regardless of size or area, are not exempt from the provisions of this chapter less than three stories high and less than five thousand square feet in area, except that buildings of assembly, educational, hazardous, and institutional occupancies as defined by the International Code Series regardless of area are not exempt from the provisions of this chapter;”

NEW PROPOSED LANGUAGE FROM LLR:

40-22-280

(B) If drawings and specifications are signed by the authors with the true title of their occupations, this chapter does not apply to the preparation of plans and specifications for:

- (1) Farm buildings not designed or used for human occupancy;
- (2) Buildings and Structures classified as occupancies and uses defined by the International Code Series, as adopted by the State of South Carolina, and listed below:
 - a) Business and Storage Occupancies and Uses of a single story and less than five thousand square feet in area, or
 - b) Mercantile Occupancies and Uses of a single story and less than 3,000 square feet in area, or
 - c) Occupancies or Uses of Assembly, Educational, Factory or Industrial, High Hazard, and Institutional regardless of size or area, are not exempt from the provisions of this chapter.
 - d) Occupancies or Uses of Utility and Miscellaneous are to be determined by the authority
- (3) ~~One-~~ and Two-Family Dwellings in compliance with the prescriptive requirements of the International Residential Code, as adopted by the State of South Carolina. All other buildings and structures classified as residential occupancies or uses in the International Code Series, as adopted by the State of South Carolina, and that are beyond the scope of the International Residential Code are not exempt from the provisions of this chapter; and
- 4) Alterations to building to which this chapter does not apply, if the
Alterations do not result in a change which would otherwise place _____
Building under the application of this chapter.
- (C) This subsection any not be construed to prejudice a law, ordinance, regulation, or other directive enacted by another political body or a requirement by a contracting authority which would otherwise require preparation of plans and specifications under the responsible charge of a professional engineer or professional surveyor.
Change PE/PLS to "licensed architect

Engineers For / Against: Pro as amended

Status: House rejected Senate Version now stuck in Conference Committee. Will come up in January of 2018.

Status: Passed House 04/05/2017

13.) **Bill Number:** S.579 **Subject:** BUILDING CODES: IBC/IRC codes / SC Codes, Adoption Guidelines, & Study Groups

Bill Sponsor: Alexander, Corbing, Climer, Campbell, Cromer, Timmons, & Hembree (Leatherman pushing)

Bill Summary: A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-5 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PUBLIC POLICY FOR

BUILDING CODES, TO PROVIDE THAT ALL STATE REGULATORY AGENCIES SHOULD ENFORCE THE SAME CODES UNLESS OTHERWISE MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND TO PROVIDE THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; TO AMEND CHAPTER 9, TITLE 6, BY ADDING SECTIONS 6-9-8 AND 6-9-9, TO PROVIDE THAT ALL TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEES SHALL BE COMPOSED OF INDIVIDUALS WITH CURRENT APPROPRIATE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS, AND CERTIFICATIONS FOR THEIR POSITION WITHIN THE COMMITTEE; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-10, RELATING TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF BUILDING CODES, TO PROVIDE THAT AGENCIES SHALL ENFORCE BUILDING CODES; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-14, RELATING TO FEES AND PERMITS FOR WHEELCHAIR RAMPS, TO PROVIDE THAT A MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY MAY NOT CHARGE A PERMIT FEE OR REQUIRE A PERMIT FOR A WHEELCHAIR ACCESS RAMP BUILT WITH MEDICARE OR MEDICAID DOLLARS AS LONG AS THE CONSTRUCTION IS PERFORMED, OVERSEEN, OR INSPECTED BY A SOUTH CAROLINA-RECOGNIZED CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-40, RELATING TO THE BUILDING CODE ADOPTION PROCEDURE, TO PROVIDE A TIMEFRAME IN WHICH THE COUNCIL IS AUTHORIZED TO REVIEW, ADOPT, MODIFY, AND PROMULGATE BUILDING CODES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES, TO PROVIDE WHAT INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT OR MODIFY BUILDING CODES, AND TO UPDATE THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND COUNCIL ADOPTION PROCEDURE; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-50(A), RELATING TO ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CODES AND STANDARDS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE COUNCIL MAY PROMULGATE VARYING CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR DIFFERING USES AND MAY USE THE REQUIREMENTS OF A NATIONALLY KNOWN CODE, A NATIONAL MODEL CODE, OR A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CODE AS GUIDANCE; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-60, RELATING TO ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF CERTAIN NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CODES AND STANDARDS, TO PROVIDE THAT MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES MAY ADOPT BY REFERENCE ONLY THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE CODE APPROVED AND PROMULGATED BY THE COUNCIL; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-63, RELATING TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL, TO UPDATE THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE COUNCIL AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION SHALL PROVIDE THE COUNCIL AND TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEES WITH A PRINTED OR AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE RELEVANT CODES BEING ENFORCED OR REVIEWED BY THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMITTEE; TO AMEND SECTION 6-9-105(A), RELATING TO VARIATIONS BASED ON PHYSICAL OR CLIMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT PROPOSED VARIATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS BY A MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 6-9-55.

Engineers For/Against: Against

Status: In Senate LCI Committee, subcommittee hearing pending.

Not introduced bills, but issues we see happening this year

14.) **Bill Subject:** QBS /Brokering of Engineering & Surveying Services

Bill Summary: QBS pushed to Political Sub-divisions. / Forbid brokering of Engineering & Surveying services without a professional license.

Committee: House & Senate LCI

Status: Working on compromise language with opposition, then we'll work on it being introduced.

Engineers For/Against : Pro