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can still be nominated by one political party but cannot appear on the ballot after losing a political party primary.

Also, voter registration applicants would have to make an additional oath that they, to the best of their knowledge, are not already a registered voter in any other state. While their registration information may be used for operating the voting system in place in our state, the State Election Commission [SEC] Director would have to certify annually that this information is being securely maintained in accordance with listed national standards. Before any new voting systems could be purchased, the SEC would be required to receive input from the public, academia, public interest organizations, local election officials, and policy makers. Optical scanners in existing, or proposed, systems would have to meet strict standards as specified in this bill.

Voter registration lists would have to be amended within seven days of the SEC receiving any information that disqualifies any registered voter.

Absentee ballot oaths would be required to have the printed name of the witness, in addition to their signature and address. For anyone qualified to vote by absentee ballot, a new reason to vote absentee would be that a voter is going to be absent from the county for the duration of the early voting period and on Election Day. Being on vacation during early voting or on Election Day, would no longer be a valid reason for obtaining an absentee ballot. Applications for these ballots would include the last four digits of voters' social security numbers. No more than ten absentee ballot applications could be distributed to any one person. Fraudulent registering and other scams would see potential penalties of up to \$1,000 or up to five years in jail. Fraudulent voters would face fines from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and up to five years in jail. These penalties extend to poll workers and other election officials who commit misconduct in the election, or in the discharge of their duties.

Absentee ballot delivery would require an authorized returnee to produce a current and valid form of government-issued photo identification. Receipt and opening absentee ballot return envelopes would be able to begin at 6:01 p.m. on the Saturday before Election Day and tabulating absentee ballots could start at 7:00 a.m. on the calendar day before Election Day. Anyone reporting absentee ballot results before the polls are closed would face criminal penalties of up to five years in jail, or fines of up to \$1,000.

Any voter who has already voted absentee could cast a provisional ballot on Election Day. This provisional ballot could be counted only if that voter's absentee ballot is not received in the county voter registration and election commission offices by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Postelection hand count audits of five percent of the ballots cast would be done after every statewide general election. Other auditing methods would be utilized, including risk-limiting audits, results verification by third-party vendors, ballot reconciliation, or any other method deemed appropriate by the State Election Commission [SEC] Director. These audit results would be published on the SEC website.

The House amended and sent to the Senate H. 4618. The bill regards bus definitions and stopping requirements at railroad tracks. The House amendment also clarified stopping requirements involving hazardous materials. These changes conform with federal law.

The House approved and sent the Senate H. 4983, a bill that revises provisions for the licensing and regulation of continuing care retirement communities. The legislation establishes a two-tiered system of licensure with the Department of Consumer Affairs involving the issuance of preliminary and final licenses.

The House adopted the proposed Committee amendment and sent to the Senate H. 4319, a bill to provide that upon the request of a person, the DMV must issue a Real ID compliant driver's license that contains the person's name as it appears on their current driver's license. Acceptable evidence when applying for or renewing a driver's license, beginner's permit, or identification card that proves the applicant's date of birth, place of birth, gender, social security number, principal residential address, full legal name, when applicable, legal name change, and when applicable, authorized length of stay in the United States.

Other provisions provide for a name change that occurred after the applicant's birth – the applicant must present documentation to the Department to show name traceability: court orders, a marriage license issued signed by the official that performed the wedding ceremony and signed by both parties to the marriage, or an equivalent marriage license issued by a foreign jurisdiction, a change of name allowance following a divorce or an equivalent change of name document following a divorce issued by a foreign jurisdiction, or an unexpired, United States Passport or Passport Card that includes the applicant's full legal name.

If any one of the above documents does not show a link to the applicant's evidence of full legal name, the Department may require the applicant to submit more than one document to show traceability from the applicant's original name to his current name.

The Department may issue any driver's license or identification card in the applicant's preferred name if the applicant presents to the Department at least three different documents, acceptable to the Department, showing the applicant's full name with the preferred name being the one used for at least fifteen years.

The applicant's social security number must be validated with the Social Security Administration using the applicant's preferred and full name presented to the Department before the Department may issue a driver's license, permit, or identification card to the applicant. In the case of the social security number not validating, the Department shall not issue any type of REAL ID permit, license, or identification card.

The House adopted the Conference Report for H. 3308, and a message was ordered and sent to the Senate. The bill increases the watercraft idle speed wake distance to one hundred feet of a wharf, dock, bulkhead, or pier on certain lakes. Provisions do not apply to Lake Moultrie. Also, the provisions do not apply to a person behind a vessel or watercraft who is on water skis or a floating device with the permission of the operator of the vessel or watercraft. The bill also sets the limit for wake surf to two hundred feet from a moored vessel, dock, pier, bulkhead, wharf, or person in the water. "Wake surf" is defined as to operate a vessel that is ballasted in the stern so as to create a wake that is or is intended to be surfed by another person.

The House also approved, then sent to the Senate H. 3788, which would add the Attorney General, or his desig-

nee, as a Commission on Prosecution Coordination member, if enacted.

The House sent to the Senate H. 3337, a bill that enacts the "Military Temporary Remote School Enrollment Act" to require a school district to accept an application for enrollment and course registration by electronic means for a pupil whose parent or legal guardian is transferred to or is pending transfer to a military installation while on active duty pursuant to an official military order. The parent or legal guardian must provide proof of residence to the school district within ten days after the arrival date provided on official documentation. Any ambiguity in construing the provisions of this bill must be resolved in favor of the enrolling pupil.

The House adopted the proposed Committee amendment and sent to the Senate H. 3242, a bill that requires the state Department of Education to create, publish, and provide to all public schools in the state a list of alternative education programs that can award a high school degree or high school equivalency credential. The list must include, but not be limited to, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School and the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy. As part of each student's annual review of his Individualized Graduation Plan, school counselors shall distribute information provided by the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy, and any other alternative education program to students who are not on track for on-time graduation or who otherwise are at risk of dropping out of school. School counselors shall provide those institutions the names and addresses of all students who are not on track for on-time graduation except for students who have opted out of disclosure of directory information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Parents or students aged eighteen or older may complete a form to opt the student out of the disclosure of student contact information with these institutions.

The House amended and sent the Senate H. 4839, the "Living Donor Protection Act." The bill establishes provisions to prohibit insurers from discriminating against living organ donors through declining or limiting coverage or imposing special costs or conditions. The legislation addresses issuers of individual life insurance, group life insurance, disability income insurance, and long-term care insurance policies.

The House read the third time and enrolled for ratification S. 508, a bill that delineates the law regarding "do not resuscitate for emergency services" orders for a child with a terminal illness and ordered to be enrolled for ratification. This legislation clarifies the law for emergency services (EMS) personnel. These orders are written at the request of the child's parent or legal guardian to allow them to make the medical decisions in a home setting for a natural death of a terminal child in a hospice eligible condition. Although "do not resuscitate" orders are allowed for children in healthcare facilities, currently the law does not allow a "do not resuscitate" order for a child under the age of 18 years old.

The House amended, approved, and sent to the Senate H. 3729, a bill addressing charges for storing towed vehicles. The legislation establishes notification requirements that must be followed before a towing company, storage facility, garage, or repair shop may collect storage costs from vehicle owners or lienholders.

The House approved H. 3888, adopting the proposed amendment by the committee, and sent to the Senate, a joint resolution creating a study committee to examine the state of mental health of South Carolina residents. This committee will review trends in mental health treatment and diagnoses, the availability of mental health services, the use of telemedicine, prescribing practice trends, rates of voluntary or involuntary hospital commitment due to mental illness or due to a chemical dependency to alcohol or other drugs, job loss or other employment trends associated with mental illness or mental disorders, and rates of suicide or overdose. The bill outlines that only aggregated data with no personally identifiable information may be obtained. The 13-member committee will be comprised of appropriate agency heads or appointees, along with appointees by the Senate and the House. The committee must provide a report outlining findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2023, at which time the committee is dissolved.

The House approved H. 4082, adopting the proposed amendment by the committee, and sent to the Senate, a bill that creates a new license for hair designers to be regulated by the Board of Cosmetology. The bill outlines that "hair design" means "arranging, styling, thermal curling, chemical waving, pressing, shampooing, cutting, shaping, chemical bleaching, chemical coloring, chemical relaxing, or similar work on the hair, wig, or hairpiece of a person, by any means, with hands and mechanical or electrical apparatus or appliance." The license for hair designers does not replace a cosmetologist license. This bill also allows the board to grant reciprocity in South Carolina to a hair designer properly licensed in another state.

The House approved S. 430, a bill to require that our state Commission for the Blind meet at least once each year. Current law requires this Commission to meet at least monthly. After the House adopted this Senate bill, it was enrolled for ratification.

If you have a comment or opinion concerning the matters discussed in this report, or if I may be of assistance to you at any time, please feel free to call my legislative office in Columbia (803-734-3069); or (864-223-3193) or (864) 852-2232 in McCormick or write Post Office Box 181, Greenwood, SC 29648. If you would like any additional information on these bills, or any other legislation under consideration by the General Assembly, feel free to visit our website at [www.scstatehouse.gov](http://www.scstatehouse.gov). Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the House of Representatives.

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## McCormick Soil and Water Conservation District essay contest winners

The winners of the McCormick Soil and Water Conservation District essay contest on "Control Burning" are seventh graders Ja'Miyah Jennings (left), first place; Makel Tillman (center), second place; and Londyn Bowie, third place.

## Democrats from page 5

and expect us to vote based upon race alone. We have many challenges ahead. We are all suffering together from disastrous Democrat programs and Executive Orders directly responsible for runaway inflation, insane gas prices and outrageous utility bills. As a result of the debacle in Afghanistan, Russia is on the march and China is eyeing Taiwan. Our supply chain is in shambles as California's Democrats passed diesel fuel laws that keep 50 percent of the nation's trucks from their State; clogging up their ports. The Southern border is overrun once again with illegal aliens and drug cartels. Crime, especially violent crime, is on the rise as Democrats defund the police and release criminals from jail without bail. Locally, the Democrat Town Council allows buildings like the Orange Spot to rot before our eyes and the Democrat County Council spends your taxes to build industrial/technology parks on the premise that "if you build it, they will come." Well, they haven't and our young people are forced to leave when they become adults because there are so few good jobs outside of the local government. From the local to the national level, Democrats don't just use your taxes poorly, they use them to make you poor.

Republicans will be offering solutions instead of blaming you for not owning a \$60,000 electric car or punishing you for exercising your freedom to decide what injections are right for you. We want your vote based upon the merits of our ideas alone and will work to earn it instead of taking it for granted. Let's show Democrats in the fall that we refuse to be divided racially and that it's a lot easier to vote than it is to pay for their socialist money pits like the Green New Deal.

And yes Mr. and Ms. Finney, when it comes to civil rights, our Southern traditions of civility and grace must stand aside for our bedrock principles of justice and equality. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it." We must therefore decline your admonishment to be graceful in this temporary civil rights setback.

- Kevin McCravy  
Chairman, McCormick County Republican Party

**LOW INCOME  
HOUSEHOLD  
WATER  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM**

Beginning October 2021

GLEAMNS will be providing water and waste water assistance. For information, please contact the McCormick County GLEAMNS Community Services Department at 864-852-2662.

**Books by Bobby F. Edmonds**

 <b>McCormick the Place (softcover)</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	 <b>Destiny of the Scots-Irish</b> <b>\$20.00</b>	 <b>The Neglected Thread</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	 <b>Kannah: The Life of J.E. James</b> <b>\$8.95</b>	 <b>The Making of McCormick County</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
 <b>The Huguenots of New Bordeaux</b> <b>\$20.00</b>	 <b>McCormick County Land of Cotton</b> <b>\$30.00</b>	 <b>George McDuffie: Southern Orator</b> <b>\$20.00</b>	 <b>Gold, Gems and Artifacts Prospecting</b> <b>\$10.00</b>	 <b>McCormick County Cemeteries</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
 <b>Growing up Southern</b> <b>\$20.00</b>	 <b>The British Partizan</b> <b>\$12.00</b>	 <b>A Culture Lost to Thurmond Lake</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	 <b>Building Railroads</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	 <b>Echoes from Bygone Days</b> <b>\$25.00</b>

Books may be purchased at the  
Wilmington Book Store, Strom's Drug Store,  
Chamber of Commerce and Books on Main