



## HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY UPDATE

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Senate Education Subcommittee will meet Tuesday, April 19 upon adjournment of the Senate in 207 Gressette to discuss competency-based education (H. 3883).
- Senate Education Committee will meet Wednesday, April 20 at 10 am in 209 Gressette. Agenda items include workforce development (H. 4766, H. 3144), LIFE Scholarships (H. 3588) and competency-based education (H. 3883).
- A Senate Education subcommittee will convene Wednesday, April 20 at 9:30 am in 207 Gressette and consider the selection of UofSC Board of Trustees. There are four active bills: S. 74, S. 813, S. 1242 and H. 5198.

### Budget

Last week, the Senate Finance Committee made FY 22-23 budget recommendations. Some of the Senate Finance Committee's recommendations include:

- Additional \$10 million in need-based grants
- \$457,500 to fund new FTEs dedicated to ASCEND 60x30 initiatives
- \$10 million to address the statewide nursing shortage
- \$240,000 to fund the state match for CHE's College and Career Opportunity Program
- \$700,000 in one-time funding for the SC Institutes of Innovation

The Senate will debate the budget next week. It is likely the House will amend the budget further in the first or second week of May. Conferees will be selected after the House finalizes the budget.

### Legislation:

- Competency-based Education: H. 3883 would exempt K-12 districts from some state regulations if they pursue competency-based education. The bill directs the CHE and State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education to develop policies for scholarships and financial aid for high school graduates in school districts that have nontraditional diplomas and transcripts.

- Educator Prep: H .3591 creates a commission, including the CHE, to develop and publish an online report card including specific information about educator preparation programs.
- Workforce Development: H. 4766 revises the primary responsibilities of the Coordinating Council on Workforce Development. The CHE Executive Director is an appointed member of the Council.
- LIFE Scholarships: H. 3588 requires high school seniors to complete an English course and a math or computer science course during their senior years.
- SC WINS Scholarships: H. 3144 established the SC Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship to provide certain students attending a two-year technical college are eligible for the scholarship. The program includes dual enrollment students and provides eligibility requirements.

## EVENTS

College and Career Decision Day: May 4. The CHE will the high school Class of 2022 with a walk down Main Street to the State House.