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South Carolina House of Representatives

Legislative Update & Research Reports

Robert J. Sheheen, Speaker of the House

Vol. 6

March 21, 1989

No. 11

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MAR 27 1989

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Printed by the Legislative Council

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House Week in Review

The House of Representatives got an early start on the legislative week last week, meeting Monday afternoon to begin deliberations on H.3600, the State Appropriations Bill.

After long hours of debate, the House gave second reading approval to the \$3.3 billion bill Wednesday evening. Third reading approval was given Thursday. The *Legislative Update* will publish a report on budget highlights when information is available.

Still to be considered are the three remaining budget bills: H.3601, the Supplemental Appropriations Bill; H.3602, the Capital Reserve Fund Bill, and H.3622, the Surplus Supplemental Bill. A summary of two of these three House Ways and Means Committee bills are in this week's *Update*.

In addition to the State Appropriations Bill, the House earlier passed H.3573, the Deficiency Supplemental Bill, now before the Senate for consideration. That means a total of five budget bills will be considered by the House this session.

Bills Introduced

Here is a sampling of the bills introduced in the House last week. Not all the bills introduced are featured here. The bills are organized by the standing committees to which they were referred.

Education and Public Works Committee

Braille Study (H.3677, Rep. Hearn). This bill proposes that any student majoring in special education at a state-supported institution of higher learning must successfully complete a course in the braille system for at least one credit hour in order to graduate. This applies to students who enroll for the first time in 1989 and thereafter.

Under-aged DUI (H.3679, Rep. Hayes). This bill would make it a misdemeanor for anyone age 21 or younger to operate an automobile with a blood alcohol content of .02 or greater. The penalty provided in the bill is a minimum of 80 hours of public service. These young people are considered to have given their implied consent to chemical tests of breath, blood, or urine for determining the presence of alcohol.

If the person refuses the tests, his license will be suspended for a year. This also would apply to a non-resident's operating privileges. Upon arrest, if the tests show a .02 or greater blood alcohol level, the license of the under-21 driver would be suspended for one year. If the young person does not yet have a license, the Highway Department would deny a license application for one year following the test showing .02 or greater blood alcohol level.

Veterans Day Holiday (H.3680, Rep. Baxley). This bill requires that the state's public schools and state colleges and universities observe Veterans Day as an official school holiday. The bill notes that students would be able to participate in or observe patriotic parades or ceremonies held in tribute to veterans.

School Bus Warning Devices (H.3681, Rep. Rama). Beginning with the 1990-91 school year, this bill proposes requiring all school buses to be equipped with at least two audible-visual sensory warning devices. These devices must emit an audible sound and include a visual identification device to alert the bus driver that someone is in the danger zone. The danger zone is any area in or outside the bus where a passenger may be injured and where the driver does not have direct visual contact. Each school district will be reimbursed by the state for the cost of these warning devices through an appropriation to the State Department of Education from the General Fund or from federal Highway Safety Funds.

Special Exit Exam Testing (S.49, Sen. Martschink). This bill provides special testing arrangements for students with documented learning disabilities taking the high school exit exam. The reading test portion of the exit exam may be administered orally.

Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee

DYS Marine Institute (H.3683, Rep. T.C. Alexander). This joint resolution would direct the Department of Youth Services not to locate a juvenile offenders' marine institute at a site on Lake Jemiki, near Walhalla. This marine institute would teach academic and vocational skills, especially small boat engine repair. The joint resolution says there is local concern about the proposed Lake Jemiki location since it is in a densely populated area.

Judiciary Committee

Psychological Impact on Real Estate (H.3700, Rep. Felder). This bill states that all stigmas associated with real property that have a psychological impact are not material facts that must be disclosed in a real estate transaction. Psychological stigmas include: previous occupants who were suspected to be infected with or were infected with HIV or diagnosed with AIDS, or any other disease unlikely to be transmitted through the occupancy of a dwelling; or that the property was the site of a homicide, another felony or a suicide.

Sentencing Guidelines Commission (H.3740, Rep. Wilkins). This proposed legislation would create the South Carolina Sentencing Guidelines Commission. This commission, made up of 13 voting members, would developed a "rational and sound sentencing structure for the state." Within a year of its creation, the commission would recommend sentencing guidelines for the General Sessions Court for all offenses for which a one year sentence or greater is allowed, for crimes allowing a year or less in jail time, and for offenders for whom traditional imprisonment is not considered proper. These recommendations would be made to the General Assembly.

Additionally, the commission would serve as a clearing house and information center on state and local sentencing practices. Recommendations to the General Assembly regarding changes in the criminal code, criminal procedures and other aspects of sentencing also would be made.

Ratification of 25th Amendment (S.328, Sen. Lourie). This joint resolution would ratify the U.S. constitutional amendment regarding presidential succession. The amendment was proposed in 1965 by the Congress to provide for procedures for the Vice President to assume the office of President should the President die, resign, or be removed. The amendment also provides for the Vice President to assume the highest office should the President be unable to discharge his duties. It further outlines procedures for the Congress to follow to decide the issue should there be a conflict between the Vice President and the President over the Vice President's assumption of the executive role. The amendment also provides that the President may appoint, with congressional confirmation, a Vice President should a vacancy occur.

This amendment was ratified by two-thirds of the states in 1967. Ratification of this amendment by South Carolina would be a legislative housekeeping measure.

Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee

Bootleg Audio and Visual Devices (H.3693, Rep. J. Rogers). This bill would update the current laws prohibiting the counterfeiting of records and tapes for commercial advantage or private gain. The bill expands the definition to include new mediums such as discs, video tapes or any other medium to be developed to record images or sound. The counterfeiting laws would be amended to include rentals. The bill substantially increases penalties for violations. For instance, the penalty would be a fine of up to \$250,000 and up to 5 years in jail or both for a second offense of if the offense involved at least a thousand bootlegged articles. Other penalties are equally stiff. These punishments would cover advertising, rental and distribution of counterfeit items.

Fair Housing (S.4, Sen. Fielding). This is the companion bill to H.3298, the Fair Housing Act, sponsored by Rep. Washington. Having been worked over by the Senate, this amended version of the original bill expands or clarifies a number of definitions. However, the basic premise of the bill remains intact. (See the Jan. 31 Update for a brief summary of H.3298.)

Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

Handicapped Infants and Toddlers (H.3689, Rep. Hearn). Under this bill, a 15-member State Interagency Coordinating Council would be created to advise DHEC on developing and administering a comprehensive system of early intervention for handicapped infants and preschoolers. Children with these conditions would be sought out by DHEC and a plan devised for early intervention in order to minimize developmental delays caused by the handicapping conditions. This intervention would include assessment and assistance with physical, emotional, speech and language or other problems. The aim of the bill is to ultimately decrease the need for institutionalizing these children and the need for special education in the public schools.

Child Support Enforcement (H.3699, Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee). This lengthy bill would conform state child support laws to the 1988 Family Support Act, enacted by Congress. Without enactment of these changes, the state would be subject to between \$1 million to \$5 million in AFDC sanctions. The bill provides that:

1. Child Support Guidelines developed by the Department of Social Services in 1987 must be used to establish child support awards as a rebuttable presumption. That is, the Family Court may depart from using these guidelines if their application would be inequitable or unjust to the parties or child involved. Presently, the Family Court may use these guidelines in determining child support awards. The state must implement this change by Oct. 1.
2. Genetic testing would be made mandatory in contested paternity cases when one of the parties requests the tests. The federal government would pay 90 percent of these costs in AFDC cases. In non-AFDC cases, the costs would be recovered from the noncustodial parent. This provision would be effective Nov. 1.

3. Income withholding would be made automatic and immediate for all new and modified orders enforced by DSS after November 1990 and for all new child support orders after January 1, 1994. Presently, withholding begins when the parent is 30 days in arrears. This provision would be effective Oct. 1.
4. Parents of children under the age of 3 would be exempt from participation in the Work Support Program. Presently, parents can be exempted if the child is under the age of 6. The purpose of this program is to get AFDC families off public assistance and financially independent by requiring that they participate in training, education and job-search activities. The effective date would be Oct. 1.

Without Reference

Supplemental Appropriations Bill (H.3601, Ways and Means Committee). This supplemental appropriation bill would use \$53.9 million in surplus funds from the 1988-89 fiscal year and other unobligated or lapsed monies for a total of \$58 million.

Significant proposed expenditures include:

- \$2 million to Aid to Subdivisions Homestead Reimbursements.
- \$3.4 million for EPA local match funds.
- \$3.7 million in Aid to Entities for Rural Development. Of this, \$626,447 would be used by House members for Local Government Division grants; a like amount for Senate use. The balance must be used for projects that do not qualify for federal funds such as EPA, EDA, FHA, ARC or CDBG money.
- \$7.2 to the General Reserve Fund
- \$1.9 million for Higher Education's "Cutting Edge"
- \$17 million for Higher Education formula funding.
- The Department of Education would get:
 - * \$5.5 million for textbooks.
 - * \$8.7 million for school bus replacement
 - * \$2 million for drop-out prevention.

Provisos in the bill require:

- The CHE to establish a Center for the Advancement of Teaching and School Leadership.
- Development of a discipline-based arts education curricula by the State Department of Education in conjunction with the State Arts Commission.
- Establishment of the Public School Employee Cost Savings Programs to award school district employees with cost saving ideas.

Capital Reserve Fund Bill (H.3602, Ways and Means Committee). As allowed by constitutional amendment, the Capital Reserve Fund may be used by the General Assembly for one-time appropriations or debt retirement after March 1 in years when there is no mid-year deficit to address.

This year the Capital Reserve Fund bill totals \$53.8 million. Highlights of the proposed expenditures include:

- \$8.8 million in a one-time state employee bonus. This bonus, to be paid in December, would give \$286 to employees making less than \$20,000 and \$143 to employees making more than \$20,000.
- \$6.8 million to the Health Insurance Reserve Fund.
- An additional \$3 million for CHE's "Cutting Edge" (Also see Supplemental bill appropriation).
- An additional \$2 million to the Department of Education for textbooks. (See Supplemental bill.)
- \$4.3 million to ETV for equipment for its new facility.
- \$1.4 million to DHEC for its county offices computer network.
- \$5.1 million to cover the current year deficit in the Department of Mental Health.
- \$1 million for the PRT Recreation and Tourism Recreation Land Trust Fund.
- \$4 million for renovations of the State Supreme Court building.
- \$1.1 million to the Department of Mental Retardation for renovation and construction at its Day Program.
- \$1 million to JEDA's Revolving Loan Fund.
- \$1.3 million to the Savannah Valley Authority Hampton Project.
- \$1.1 million to the State Tax Commission for equipment revenue enhancement.

Surplus Supplemental Appropriations (H.3622, Ways and Means Committee). This bill will be the vehicle for appropriating unobligated surplus revenues for the 1988-89 fiscal year.

Women of the South Carolina General Assembly

March is "Women's History Month." In keeping with this commemoration, the Legislative Update is featuring its annual report on the contribution of women to South Carolina's history.

Sixty years ago this year, the first woman was elected to the South Carolina General Assembly. In light of this anniversary and in response to a number of legislative requests, this year we are featuring a report on women who have served in the South Carolina General Assembly.

The biographical information on women elected to the General Assembly was taken from the Legislative Manual. Thanks to House Clerk Sandra McKinney for allowing the House Research Office to use her collection of Legislative Manuals, especially those from the early years of this century.

Introduction

Unlike in the past, women are now serving at every level of political office. Nationally, for women at all levels of political office, there is a shift from politics as a cause to politics as a career. There is now a new generation of women who will forge new political trails that begin in municipal and county offices.

This trend up the political ladder is markedly apparent at the state level. In 1969, only 301 women held seats in state legislatures. By 1987 there were 1,168 women serving in state legislatures, and in 1989 that number has increased to 1,243. Women working in state legislatures are now at the cutting edge of public policy, particularly since the federal government continues to turn back more programs to the states to address.

In South Carolina, the first woman to be elected to the General Assembly was Mrs. Mary G. Ellis in 1929. Since that time an additional 34 women have served in the South Carolina Legislature -- more elected to the House than the Senate. Some of these women have risen to become the chairmen of standing committees and joint committees.

The following is a list and brief biography of all the women who have served in South Carolina's General Assembly.

Sen. Mary G. Ellis, D-Jasper

In 1929, Mary G. Ellis became the first woman to be elected to the General Assembly as a state senator from Jasper County. Mrs. Ellis represented Jasper County in the Senate for one term from 1929-1932. Born in 1890 in Gourdin, she listed her occupation as a farmer and her residence as two miles from Coosawhatchie River on Route 2.

A 1913 graduate of Winthrop College, Mrs. Ellis taught at Gillisonville School from 1913-1914 and was County Superintendent of Education from 1924-1928. While in the Senate, she served on several committees, including Education, Incorporations, Military, Natural Resources, Charitable Institutions, Penitentiary, Privileges and Elections, and Retrenchments.

Rep. Harriet F. Johnson, D-York

Harriet F. Johnson was elected to the House Feb. 6, 1945 to fill the unexpired term of York County Rep. Henry Mills, who had resigned. Mrs. Johnson was a member of the York County delegation from 1945-1946. Born in Pelzer, Mrs. Johnson was a 1917 graduate of Winthrop College. Mrs. Johnson also held a B.S. and a M.A. from Columbia University, awarded in 1927 and 1930, respectively. She was a World War I widow whose husband died in France in 1918.

After four years of teaching in the public schools, Mrs. Johnson worked as a home demonstration agent in Spartanburg County from 1919 to 1922. From 1922-1944, she was leader of the State 4-H Club, headquartered at Winthrop College, and for two years was a national 4-H committee member. She also was associate camp director of Camp Long, the State 4-H Camp. While in the House, she served on the House Accounts, Agriculture, Education, Social Security, and State House and Grounds committees.

Rep. Martha T. Fitzgerald, R-Richland

In 1950, Martha T. Fitzgerald was the first woman to be elected to the House of Representatives in a general election and to serve a full term. She represented Richland County, serving in the House from 1951-1962.

A 1916 graduate of Winthrop College, Mrs. Fitzgerald received masters degrees from both the University of South Carolina (1930) and Columbia University (1935). Mrs. Fitzgerald had a varied career in education. She worked as a rural school teacher, was the superintendent of the Farm Life School in Pineville, N.C. and a teacher trainer for the Saluda County normal school. She worked at the State Department of Education in rural and elementary education from 1920-1947 as a lecturer and prolific writer of bulletins, pamphlets and manuals. She listed herself as a life member of SCEA and as founder and first state president of Delta Kappa Gamma. She was a trustee of Queens College and trustee board chairman of the Edgewood Sanitarium Foundation.

Mrs. Fitzgerald was the first woman to serve as a committee officer. She was the 2nd Vice Chairman of the Education and Public Works Committee in 1951. She also served on House Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee.

Rep. Emma Jane McDermott, D-York

Also a member of the York County delegation, Emma Jane McDermott was elected to the House in July 1953 to fill one of the unexpired terms caused by the resignation of Reps. Arthur Erwin and J. Lewis Moss. Mrs. McDermott was from Rock Hill and represented York County from 1953-1954.

Born in Virginia, Mrs. McDermott graduated from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia in 1942. She also did graduate study at Winthrop in 1948. Mrs. McDermott was a member of the Veterans' School Staff in Rock Hill, teaching American Government, English, Reading and Spelling. She served on the House Education and Public Works Committee.

Rep. Ruby G. Wesson, D-Spartanburg

Representing Spartanburg County, Ruby G. Wesson was one of three women elected to the House in 1959. Born in Gaffney, she graduated from Mary Black Memorial Hospital with an R.N. in 1931 and attended George Peabody College, Scarritt College in 1936. She held a number of offices with district and statewide nursing organizations. Mrs. Wesson served in the House from 1959-1960 and was on the House Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee.

Rep. Virginia Gourdin, D-Charleston

Virginia Gourdin was elected to the House in 1959 as a member of the Charleston County legislative delegation. Born in Kingstree, she graduated from Winthrop College with an A.B. in 1941, Columbia University with a B.S. in 1942 and the University of South Carolina with a M.A. in 1951.

Miss Gourdin had a varied career before her election to the House, including positions at Harvard Graduate Business School, Beaufort High School, Memminger High School, University of California Bureau of Economic Research, the University of South Carolina Department of English, and South Carolina National Bank. At the time of House service she was employed with the Mortgage Banking firm of Stevenson, Zimmerman, & Co. of Charleston and also listed herself as a Williamsburg County farmer. Miss Gourdin served in the House from 1959-1962 and was on the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee.

Rep. Ruth Williams, D-Charleston

Ruth Williams was elected to the House in 1963 representing Charleston County. Born in Fort Worth, Texas, she moved to Charleston in March 1941. Miss Williams attended Winthrop College from 1946-1950 and graduated from the University of South Carolina Law School with a LL.B. in 1954. Miss Williams was a lawyer and a member of the Charleston Lawyers Club, County Bar Association, and a member of many governmental and civic organizations. Miss Williams served in the House from 1963-1964 and was on the House Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee.

Rep. Carolyn E. Frederick, R-Greenville

Elected in 1967 to represent House District 22 in Greenville County, Carolyn E. Frederick was the first Republican woman elected to the House. Born in Atlanta, she moved to Greenville in 1949. A 1928 Agnes Scott graduate, Mrs. Frederick was a newspaper writer, advertising executive, and at the time of House service, a public relations consultant. She also served as public relations director for the YWCA from 1958 to 1964.

Among her many activities and affiliations, Mrs. Frederick was the manager of the Greenville Symphony from 1954-1970 and executive director of the Greenville Arts Festival from 1963-1965. She was a member of the Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission and a 1970 presidential appointee to the advisory commission of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Mrs. Frederick served in the House from 1967-1976 and was on the House Education and Public Works Committee and the Interstate Cooperation Committee.

Sen. Thomasine Grayson Mason, D-Clarendon

Thomasine Grayson Mason was elected to the Senate in 1967 representing District 20 in Clarendon County. Born near Summerton, Mrs. Mason graduated from the University of South Carolina with a A.B. in 1938 and a LL.B. in 1942. A lawyer, Mrs. Mason served as a secretary and a director of Grayson-Elliott, Inc. She also served as a circuit vice president of the South Carolina Bar. Mrs. Mason was in the Senate from 1967-1968 and she served on several committees: Atomic and Nuclear Energy, Commerce and Manufactures, Federal Relations, Judiciary, Military, and Penal and Charitable Institutions.

Sen. Sherry Shealy Martschink, R-Lexington

Sherry Shealy Martschink is one of the few women who has served both in the House and the Senate. A senior at the University of South Carolina when elected to a Lexington County House seat, she served from 1971-1974. During her House terms, she served on the House Education and Public Works Committee. Active in a wide variety of civic and Republican activities, she was a participant in the 1971 White House Conference on Aging and the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services.

Mrs. Martschink was elected to the Senate on April 21, 1987 to fill the unexpired term of State Sen. Arthur Ravenel, Jr. who had been elected to Congress. She continues to serve as the District 44 senator, representing parts of Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester counties. She serves on several Senate standing committees, including Agriculture and Natural Resources, Fish, Game and Forestry, General Committee, and Rules.

Mrs. Martschink is the Executive Director of Children At Risk, Inc. and a freelance writer. Born in Columbia, she graduated from the University of South Carolina with a B.A.I.S. in 1976. Mrs. Martschink was one of the ten Americans to attend the NATO Conference in Brussels, Belgium, 1973. She has served as a Director of Institutional Advancement at the College of Charleston.

Rep. Irene K. Rudnick, D-Aiken

Irene K. Rudnick represents House District 81 in Aiken County. Her six terms in the House began in 1973; she has served Aiken County from 1973-1978, 1981-1984, and 1987 to the present. During her legislative service, she has served on several House standing committees: Education and Public Works in 1973-74, Ways and Means from 1975-78, and Judiciary in 1981-84 and 1987-89.

Born in Columbia, she graduated from the University of South Carolina with an A.B. in 1949 and a J.D. in 1952. In addition to a number of civic, legal and education organizations, she was Aiken County Superintendent of Education from 1970-1972. Mrs. Rudnick also has been an instructor of Business and Criminal Law at USC-Aiken.

Sen. Norma C. Russell, R-Lexington

Norma C. Russell is also one of the few women to be elected to both the House and Senate. She began her legislative service in the House where she served from 1973-1980 representing Lexington County District 90. She served on the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee and was 2nd vice-chairman from 1975-1976.

Mrs. Russell served in the Senate from 1981-1984 representing Senate District No.8, Seat 3, encompassing parts of Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell, Edgefield, Lexington counties. Her Senate committee assignments included: Corrections and Penology, Medical Affairs, Rules, and Transportation.

Born in Joanna, she attended the University of South Carolina from 1955-56. In addition to a variety of civic activities, Mrs. Russell is a freelance court reporter. She also served as a Senate attache from 1964-68. She was the S.C. School Boards Association's Senator of the Year in 1982.

Rep. Jewel S. Baskin, R-Richland

Jewel S. Baskin served in the House from 1973-1976 representing Richland County District 79. She served on the Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee. Born in Lexington County, she attended the University of South Carolina and graduated from the American Institute of Banking & the FRPA School of Northwestern University. Pursuing a career in banking, Mrs. Baskin was the first woman officer of C&S National Bank of S.C.

Active in numerous banking organizations, Mrs. Baskins did not neglect her community. Among her many activities, she was an officer or board member of the state and local League of Women Voters, United Community Services and the Officer Wives Club at Fort Jackson.

Rep. Juanita W. Goggins, D-York

The first black woman to be elected to the General Assembly, Juanita W. Goggins served in the House from 1975 to 1980, representing York County District 49. She resigned on Jan. 8, 1980 due to illness. Born in Pendleton, Mrs. Goggins graduated with a BSHE from S.C. State College and did post graduate study at S.C. State College and the University of South Carolina.

Before becoming a House member, Mrs. Goggins has been a board member of the Department of Youth Services and had founded the Rock Hill area Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation.

She served on the Steering Committee of the State Black Political Caucus. While serving in the House, Mrs. Goggins was on the House Ways and Means Committee.

Rep. Jean Hoefler Toal, D-Richland

Jean Hoefler Toal served in the House representing Richland County District 75 from 1975 until February 10, 1988 when she resigned upon her election to the S.C. Supreme Court to become the state's first woman justice. She served on the Judiciary Committee from 1975-1988 and the Rules Committee from 1977-1988. Mrs. Toal served as chairman of the Rules Committee from 1983-1988, becoming the first woman to serve as a chairman of a House committee.

Born in Columbia, Mrs. Toal graduated from Agnes Scott College with a B.A. in 1965. She received her J.D. at the University of South Carolina in 1968, where she was managing editor of the S.C. Law Review. Mrs. Toal was a lawyer with the firm of Belser, Baker, Barwick, Ravenel, Toal & Bender. She was the *Greenville News'* Legislator of the Year in 1976, on the Board of Visitors of Clemson, and received the S.C. Municipal Association's 1980 Distinguished Service Award. In addition to her many civic activities, she was a trustee of the Columbia Museum of Art.

Rep. Joyce C. Hearn, R-Richland

Joyce C. Hearn was elected to the House in a special General Election on Dec. 2, 1975 to fill the unexpired term of Rep. John H. LaFitte, Jr. She has served continuously since then representing District 76 in Richland County. Mrs. Hearn was recently appointed by Gov. Campbell to the State ABC Commission. Born in Georgia, she is a former educator and businesswoman, graduating from Ohio State University in 1957.

Among her civic and party activities, Mrs. Hearn served on the board of the Columbia Museum, was Legislator of the Year for the Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse (1980), the S.C. Association of Retarded Citizens (1982), and received the 1985 MADD Distinguished Service Award. Mrs. Hearn has served as chairman of the National Advisory Commission on Occupational Safety & Health from 1982 to the present. She was assistant minority leader from 1976-78, and from 1987 to the present.

Mrs. Hearn has served on two standing committees during her tenure in the House: Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs from 1977-79, and Labor, Commerce, and Industry from 1980 to the present. She presently is chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Handicapped.

Rep. Nancy Stevenson, D-Charleston

Ferdinan (Nancy) B. Stevenson served in the House representing Charleston County District 110 from 1975-1978 when she was elected the state's first woman lieutenant governor. During her House service, Mrs. Stevenson served on the House Ways and Means Committee. Born in New Rochelle, N.Y., she graduated from Smith College with a B.A. in 1949. Mrs. Stevenson was the co-author of three novels and one autobiographical work. She was a former newspaper woman with the *New York Herald Tribune*. Among the many civic activities, she served as a trustee of the College of Charleston Foundation.

Rep. Sylvia K. Dreyfus, D-Greenville

Sylvia K. Dreyfus served in the House representing Greenville County District 22 from 1977-78. Born in New York City, she graduated from Adelphi University with a B.A. in 1946 and from Converse College in 1966 with a M.A.T. She taught in Greenville County schools for 9 years. Mrs. Dreyfus was the president of the county League of Women Voters from 1972-74. She served on the House Education and Public Works Committee.

Rep. Harriet H. Keyserling, D-Beaufort

Harriet H. Keyserling has served in the House since 1977 representing District 124 in Beaufort County. Born in New York, she graduated from Barnard College of Columbia University with a B.A. in Economics in 1943.

Mrs. Keyserling was an at-large member of the Beaufort County Council from 1975-1977. She served on the Advisory Panel on Nuclear Waste Disposal of the Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress from 1979-82. Mrs. Keyserling also served on the NCSL executive committee from 1979-82. She was chairman of the S.C. Task Force on the Arts and continues to serve as chairman of S.C. Women in Government since 1984.

She has received the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award, was named 1983 Legislative Conservationist by the S.C. Wildlife Association, and was the *Greenville News'* 1983 Legislator of the Year. Mrs. Keyserling has served on several House committees, including Education and Public Works, 1977-79; Judiciary, 1980-1982; Ways and Means, 1983-89 and Rules, 1986-89. Mrs. Keyserling has been chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Cultural Affairs since 1985 and also serves on the Nuclear Waste Consultation Committee.

Rep. Jean B. Meyers, D-Horry

Jean B. Meyers served in the House representing District 103 in Horry County from 1977-1982. Mrs. Meyers attended Converse College and the University of Georgia. She was a member of the S.C. Coastal Council and the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce. During House service, she served on the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee and was the 3rd vice-chairman from 1981-1982.

Rep. M. Lois Eargle, D-Horry

M. Lois Eargle served in the House from 1977-1984 representing Horry County District 105. Born in Sumter, Mrs. Eargle was co-owner of Eargle's Business Machines. She was the first woman without a law degree elected to the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society, serving from 1974-1977. During her four terms in the House, she served on the House Education and Public Works Committee, Operations and Management Committee and the Judicial Nominating Commission.

Rep. Virginia L. Crocker, D-Laurens

Virginia L. Crocker was elected May 9, 1978 to fill the unexpired term of Rep. Joe S. Holland who resigned. She served in the House representing Laurens County District 15 until June 30, 1984 when she resigned upon her appointment to the South Carolina Workers Compensation Commission.

Born in Clinton, she graduated from Columbia College with a B.A. in 1973 and did graduate work at the University of South Carolina. Ms. Crocker was assistant director of admissions at Presbyterian College. During her House terms, she served on the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee.

Rep. Jean L. Harris, D-Chesterfield

A ten year member of the House, Jean Laney Harris has represented Chesterfield County District 53 since 1979. A resident of Cheraw, she attended the University of South Carolina. She is a member of the Cheraw School Advisory Board and president of PTO. While in the House, she has served on the Education and Public Works Committee from 1979-80 and currently serves on the Ways and Means and House Operations and Management committees.

Sen. Elizabeth J. Patterson, D-Spartanburg

Elizabeth Johnston Patterson served in the Senate from Dec. 4, 1979 through her election to Congress in 1986. Born in Columbia, she is the daughter of the late U.S. Sen. Olin B. Johnston. She graduated from Columbia College with a B.A. in 1961 and attended graduate school at the University of South Carolina. In addition to working with the public affairs division of the Peace Corps, she worked with the Office of Economic Opportunity and was tri-county and state coordinator of the Head Start program.

Mrs. Patterson served on the Spartanburg County Council in 1975-1976. She also served on the Wofford College Board of Trustees. During her Senate service, Mrs. Patterson served on the Education, Finance, Medical Affairs, and Rules Committees, and was chairman of both the Governor's Task Force on Hunger and Nutrition and the Task Force on Prescription Drug Abuse.

Rep. Juanita M. White, D-Jasper

Juanita M. White has served in the House from April 8, 1980 when she was elected to fill the unexpired term of Rep. L. Martin Sauls III. She was the first black woman to be elected to chair a House standing committee.

Representing District 122 incorporating Jasper and parts of Beaufort counties, she was born in Savannah and graduated from Eastman Business School. Mrs. White has worked as the assistant to the special projects director of the Beaufort-Jasper Comprehensive Health Service. She also has served as the chairman of the board of directors of the LLBH Water Company from 1973-77.

In addition to being chairman of the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee from June 29, 1987 to December 1988, Mrs. White has served on the State Reorganization Commission and is immediate past chairman of the S.C. Legislative Black Caucus.

Sen. Nell W. Smith, D-Pickens

Nell W. Smith was elected to the Senate on November 10, 1981 to fill the unexpired term of her husband, Sen. Harris Page Smith. She has served continuously representing Senate District 2 in Pickens County. Born in Washington, N.C., she graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a B.S. in 1951 and was a science teacher in the Easley public schools. She is a member of the MUSC's Board of Visitors and the President's Council at Clemson. The S.C. Council for Exceptional Children named her the 1986 Legislator of the Year and UNC-G awarded her its Distinguished Alumni Award in 1987.

While in the Senate, she has been on several Senate standing committees, including Corrections and Penology, General Committee, Invitations, Medical Affairs, Rules, Education, and Judiciary. Mrs. Smith currently is chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Children.

Rep. Mary P. Miles, D-Calhoun

Mary P. Miles served in the House from 1983-1984 representing District 93, incorporating parts of Calhoun, Orangeburg and Lexington counties. Born in Calhoun County, she graduated from S.C. State College and the University of South Carolina with a M.A.. Mrs. Miles served on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee serving as committee secretary.

Rep. Denny Woodall Neilson, D-Darlington

Denny Woodall Neilson was elected to the House on August 7, 1984 to fill the unexpired term of Rep. John P. Gardner, Jr. and has represented Darlington County House District 58 continuously since then. A district vocational job placement coordinator, she graduated from Coker College with a B.S. in 1973 and from Winthrop College with a MBA in 1975. She served on the Darlington City Council from 1975-83, has been a member of the board of the Darlington County Council on Aging since 1983. She received the S.C. Distinguished Teacher-Citizen Award in 1979 and the SCEA Human Relations Award in 1978. She has served on the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee since 1985.

Rep. Donna A. Moss, D-Cherokee

Donna A. Moss has served in the House since 1985 as a full-time legislator representing Cherokee County District 30. Born in Spartanburg, she graduated from the College of Charleston with a B.S. in 1977. Mrs. Moss has served on the Cherokee County Development Board and is a member of the Appalachian Council of Governments.

She is currently chairman of the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee, becoming the second woman chairman of that standing committee. She also is secretary of the House Ethics Committee.

Rep. Sara V. Shelton, D-Greenville

Sara V. Shelton served in the House from 1985-1988 representing Greenville County District 23. Born in Union County, she is a retired educator. Mrs. Shelton graduated from Benedict College with a B.S. in 1940, and Furman University with a M.Ed. in 1968. During her two terms in the House, she served on the Joint Legislative Committee on Cultural Affairs, the EIA Select Committee and the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Affairs. She was a member of the House Education and Public Works Committee.

Rep. Lucille S. Whipper, D-Charleston

Lucille S. Whipper has served in the House since her election on August 5, 1986 representing District 109 in Charleston County. Born in Charleston, she is a retired college administrator. Mrs. Whipper graduated from Talladega College with an A.B. in 1948 and the University of Chicago with a M.A. in 1955. She also received a Counseling Education Certification from S.C. State College. Mrs. Whipper has been a member of the state Advisory Committee for Technical and Vocational Education and was on the legislative committee to study Minimum Competency Testing. She is the president of the Avery Institute of Afro-American History & Culture. She has served on the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee since 1986 and is committee secretary.

Rep. Carole C. Wells, R-Spartanburg

Carole C. Wells has represented Spartanburg County House District 34 since 1987. Born in Akron, Ohio, Mrs. Wells has been active in PTA and community organizations in Spartanburg. She was a member of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee in 1987-88 and currently serves on the House Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee.

Rep. Candy Y. Waites, D-Richland

Candy Y. Waites was elected to Richland County House District 75 on June 14, 1988 to fill the unexpired term of Rep. Jean H. Toal. Born in New York, she graduated from Wheaton College with a B.A. in 1965. Mrs. Waites was a member of the Richland County Council from 1976-1987, serving as chairman in 1979.

In addition to serving on the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations from 1977-87, she has been on the board of the S.C. Association of Counties, Central Midlands Regional Planning Council and South Carolina National Bank - Columbia. She also has been a trustee of the Columbia Museum of Art, S.C. Federation of the Blind and was a member of the CCI Relocation Task Force. She received the President's Award from the Association of Counties in 1983. She currently serves on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Rep. Maggie Wallace Glover, D-Florence

Maggie Wallace Glover is serving her first term in the House representing District 62 which incorporates parts of Florence and Darlington counties. Born in Florence, she is the Director of Student Support Services at Florence-Darlington Technical College. Ms. Glover graduated from Fayetteville State University with a B.A. in 1970 and from Frances Marion College with a M. Ed. in 1982. She was in the U.S. Army from 1974-77. She was a member of the Florence School District 1 School Board of Trustees from 1983-1988. Ms. Glover serves on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Rep. Sandra S. Wofford, R-Dorchester

Mrs. Sandra S. Wofford is serving her first term in the House representing District 92, covering parts of Berkeley and Dorchester counties. Born in Maryland, she attended Trident Technical College. She is vice-president of Berkeley Pizza Inc. Mrs. Wofford has served as executive vice-president of Citizens Against Violent Crime (CAVE), 1984-88 and is on the State Victims Compensation Board. She is a member of the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee.

Concluding Notes

Of the 35 women who have been elected to the General Assembly, six have been black -- all elected to the House. As far as party affiliation, seven have been Republicans and 28 Democrats.

Nineteen out of 46 counties have elected a woman to the Legislature. Chief among these has been Richland County, which has produced five woman legislators; four have come from Charleston County; three each from Greenville, Spartanburg and York; Horry, Jasper and Lexington counties each have elected two women legislators. Other counties that have sent a woman to the Statehouse include: Aiken, Beaufort, Calhoun, Cherokee, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dorchester, Florence, Laurens and Pickens.