

 SENATOR REX RICE

 *LEGISLATIVE UPDATE*

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17-21, 2020**

*GREETINGS!* As the South Carolina Senator of District 2, who has the great privilege of representing Pickens County, I would like to thank you for reaching out to me. I gladly welcome and encourage feedback from my constituents, and if you are receiving this, I have received an email or phone call from you concerning various legislative matters. As a way of communicating updated information during this 123rd Session of the General Assembly, I will periodically send out informational emails, such as this. I hope you find it helpful.

Please feel free to contact my Senate office with questions or if I can be of service to you. My assistant’s email is deanahage@scsenate.gov or you can call 803-212-6116. If you need immediate assistance, you can reach me on my cell phone at 864-884-0408.

You may also visit my website at <https://www.rexrice.com/> for information related to Pickens County, and to view previous legislative updates.

Please follow the links below to view the latest on the hearings for **SANTEE COOPER**.

**WEEK IN REVIEW: February 17-21, 2020**

***Third Reading, Sent to House***

**S.867** – Absentee Ballots: A bill to provide the authority charged by law with conducting an election may examine the return-addressed envelopes containing absentee ballots beginning at 9:00 a.m. the calendar day preceding election day. The examination must be done in the presence of any watchers and election managers. The provision additionally provides update language to reflect the new voting systems with paper trails.

***This Week In Committee***

Finance Committee

**Santee Cooper Report:** The Senate Finance Committee, this week, heard presentations from interested parties related to the report of the Department of Administration pursuant to Act 95 of 2019 regarding the South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper), including the Department of Administration, NextEra Energy, and Dominion Energy.

***Looking Ahead to Next Week***

Finance Committee

**Santee Cooper Report:** The report of the Department of Administration pursuant to Act 95 of 2019 regarding the South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper). The Committee intends to hear from Central Electric Cooperative and Santee Cooper.

Family and Veterans’ Services Committee:

**Secretary of Veterans Affairs** – The Committee will hold the confirmation hearing of Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Major General (Ret) William F. Grimsley.

Education Committee:

**S.954** –Midlands Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority: A bill to amend Act 189 of 2018, relating to the disposal of surplus property by Midlands Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority to permanently repeal the sunset provision.

***SANTEE COOPER UPDATES***

1. Department of Administration Santee Cooper Report - <https://scstatehouse.sharefile.com/d-s34fef2011be4387b>

(This is the original report that DOA provided on Tuesday, February 11. Click the link below to see the video)

1. Santee Cooper Joint Meeting Presentation with Moelis Updates <https://scstatehouse.sharefile.com/d-sc56c56435b54200b>

(This is the document from the Joint Finance and Ways and Means Meeting. It was essentially just a briefing)

1. Department of Administration presented the three options to the committee (Tuesday, Feb 18)

 (Sale Bid from Next Era, Management Proposal from Dominion, Santee Cooper’s Reform Plan)

1. NextEra Presentation - <https://scstatehouse.sharefile.com/d-s53b358fee9844e4b>

(Wednesday, February 19)

1. Public testimony from Dominion - (Thursday, February 20)

\*Here is the link to view the videos of the hearings:  <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/video/archives.php>