



MESSAGE FROM SCLBC CHAIR Rep. Annie E. McDaniel

Dear SCLBC Members, Friends and Fellow South Carolinians,

Happy New Year, South Carolina!

We hope you had a safe and joyful holiday season and that your 2025 is off to a prosperous start. As the 1st Regular Session of the 126th General Assembly convened on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus (SCLBC) is energized to be back at work for the people of this state. This session marks a time of significant change within both chambers, with 19 new House members and nine new Senators taking office. We also have new leadership in standing committees, and the creation of new committees to address the state's emerging challenges and opportunities.

This month, we observed the 39th annual MLK Day recognition and celebration. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy is a reminder of the importance of service, equality, and the fight for justice. We hope all South Carolinians used the day to reflect on its meaning and purpose—a time to honor his dream of unity and equity and recommit ourselves to building a fairer, stronger, and unified society for all.

This month we witnessed the inauguration of the 47th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump and the 9th State of the State address of Governor Henry McMaster.

2025 will be a year of action, and as Chair of the SCLBC, I am confident that we are ready to take bold steps to serve the best interests of our state. Together, we can build bridges toward a unified South Carolina with fortitude and resilience.

Warmest regards,
Rep. Annie E. McDaniel
Chair, South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus

JANUARY 2025 EDITION

This January Edition highlights the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus's (SCLBC) events and activities happening during the month.

THE CAUCUS IN ACTION: JANUARY REFLECTIONS



*McDaniel Sworn In As Chair of the South
Carolina Legislative Black Caucus*

Building Bridges Through Unity With

Fortitude and Resilience



The New Year brought many changes to the South Carolina State House. On January 3, 2025, surrounded by family, friends and fellow legislators, Rep. Annie E. McDaniel was sworn in as the Chair of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus. She is the fourth woman to lead the organization since its inception. Chair McDaniel is a solutions-oriented leader.



In her acceptance speech, Chair McDaniel acknowledged her predecessors and emphasized the theme of *Building Bridges Through Unity With Fortitude and Resilience*. Her leadership aims to foster understanding, support, and collective action among diverse communities in South Carolina with a focus on increasing capacity and resilience to address community challenges.

Chair McDaniel is no stranger to leadership positions. She has served on various committees in the State House, and she has served in leadership positions in the education, professional, civic and community organizations. She is known for her tenacious drive in working for the people of South Carolina. As the groundbreaking U.S. Congressperson Shirley Chisholm once said: *"if they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."* Chair McDaniel is that person who will bring that folding chair!

Continuing the legacy of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus to improve the quality of life for all citizens, Chair McDaniel readily accepts that challenge.







The 126th South Carolina General Assembly convenes

The first regular session of the 126th South Carolina General Assembly convened on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, marking the beginning of another year of impactful legislation and service to the people of South Carolina. January 14th was the first SCLBC meeting of the year and our initial time to gather and begin work on critical issues facing our communities, including energy, education, healthcare access and affordability, economic development, and public safety.

The beginning of the legislative session included numerous prefiled and newly filed bills that were read across the Speaker's desk and assigned numbers. The Ways and Means committee held subcommittee meetings regarding all sections of the budget.

The SC General Assembly came in session from January 14, 2025 – January 16, 2025 and went on break from January 21, 2025 – January 23, 2025.

The SC Legislative Black Caucus meets each Tuesday while the Legislature is in session.



Harold M. Love Jr.
President of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators
Tennessee State Representative

MEMBERS PLEASE JOIN THE NBCSL

Membership Benefits

Policy Influence

Shape legislation and advocate for change by joining any of our 15 policy committees. NBCSL members can also endorse resolutions and access model legislation from other states to benefit their constituents.

Networking Opportunities

Connect with a national network of legislators, policymakers, and advocates. Our events, conferences, and meetings provide a space for collaboration and knowledge sharing with fellow legislators and Corporate Round Table (CRT) members.

Educational Resources

Through the Public Policy and Research Institute (PPRI), members can access a wide range of research reports, policy briefs, and expert analyses to stay informed about the latest legislative trends and issues.

Professional Development

Enhance your skills and knowledge through workshops, seminars, and training sessions specifically designed to support your growth as a legislator.

Annual Legislative Conference

Attend our signature event, which brings together members, thought leaders, and community advocates to discuss critical issues and celebrate achievements.

Membership Digital Directory Reporting Platform

Gain access to our digital directory, which facilitates communication and reporting among members, ensuring that you are always connected and informed.

South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Chairwoman encourages action and involvement during King Day at the Dome

On January 20, 2025, South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Chairwoman Annie E. McDaniel shared remarks at the King Day at the Dome event on the South Carolina State House steps, which was sponsored by the SC State NAACP. During her remarks, she stressed the importance of holding local and state officials accountable. She also encouraged attendees to download the South Carolina Legislative app, which provides valuable information on how legislators vote.

Madam Chair shared a powerful and inspiring quote from Dr. King. "If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving." This quote emphasizes the importance of perseverance and continuing to push forward, no matter the challenges ahead.

Madam Chair concluded her remarks with a quote by Michelle Obama: "Do something."

This powerful message encouraged action and involvement.

SCLBC Members Voice Citizens Concerns In NRC Public Meeting

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission conducted a public meeting on January 28, 2025, at The McCrorey-Liston School of Technology. The purpose of this meeting was to receive comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Subsequent License Renewal of V.C. Summer Unit #1.

It was evident, by the large turnout for the meeting, that the citizens had concerns about the renewal of the NRC license. Rep. Annie E. McDaniel, SCLBC Chair and other elected officials expressed concerns to the NRC representatives about the impact that the renewal of this license would have on the citizens of Fairfield County and surrounding areas. The V.C. Summer Plant is located in Fairfield County, which is an area that is represented by Chair McDaniel.

In her remarks to the NRC members, Rep. McDaniel told them that the community must be heard if Santee Cooper/Dominion wants a positive relationship with the citizens. She reiterated to the NRC that there needs to be accountability not just to the shareholders, but to the community as well, and that the community must be involved in monitoring this plant's activities and inspections. Rep. McDaniel with the support of her constituents requested and extension of time

for the community to make comments.

Rep. Reese also shared concerns regarding the impact the nuclear plant had on the citizens in his district. He also shared that citizens should be advised of any safety concerns. Elected officials and community members appreciated the presence and support of Chair McDaniel. They said: *"Her concern for the community was evident by her presence and her comments to the NRC representatives."* There will be additional meetings and they are confident that she will be with them throughout the process.

Bridging the Gap

McDaniel Communicates The Urgent Need for Attainable Housing In South Carolina

Speaking at the January Meeting of the Manufactured Housing Institute, Chair of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus, Rep. Annie E. McDaniel emphasized the urgent need for attainable housing in South Carolina.

Rep. McDaniel stated, "There needs to be something in place to bridge the gap between modular homes (homes that are constructed in a factory and then assembled on site) and brick homes (homes that are built with an internal and external layer of brickwork, separated by a gap that is usually filled with insulation). Manufactured homes (inexpensive homes that are built on a steel chassis and transported to the site) could be the answer. Manufactured houses are a lot more sturdy than they were in years past. Individuals must be allowed to purchase what they can afford and what their jurisdiction and elected officials are assisting them with affording. You can not grow your communities without allowing and supporting affordable housing."

According to MHISC Director Mark Dillard, Chair McDaniel provided the group with a comprehensive overview of the state's housing situation and how serving the state's rural counties is a special challenge. Dillard said: *"the members of the Manufactured Housing Institute were impressed with Chair McDaniel's knowledge about what it will take to increase the production of quality attainable housing in South Carolina."*

In order to *Bridge the Gap* in South Carolina, we must work together to provide our citizens with attainable housing.

WEEKLY MEETING UPDATES

Guest Presenters

January 14 Curtis Loftis, Treasurer, SC Office of the State Treasurer

January 28 Alan Lee, Conservation Voters of SC
L. Oveta Glover, Columbia Branch NAACP/FUNDS, Inc.

The South Carolina Unclaimed Property Program

The South Carolina Unclaimed Property Program, managed by the State Treasurer's Office, helps residents, businesses, and organizations recover lost or forgotten funds such as dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, unclaimed insurance benefits, and utility deposits. Each year, millions of dollars are transferred to the program by companies unable to locate the rightful owners. With over \$518 million returned to South Carolinians and more than \$950 million still waiting to be claimed, the program offers a quick, easy, and free way to check if there are any unclaimed assets owed to you. By leveraging user-friendly tools and proactive outreach, the State Treasurer's Office ensures transparency and engagement, fostering financial empowerment for South Carolina residents.

SCLBC members are encouraged to share this information with your Districts. Contact the Treasurer's Office to obtain a listing of the Unclaimed Property in your area.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY](#)

Legislative Update

Stay connected with the SCLBC as we lead with purpose, advocate for change, and build a stronger, more inclusive South Carolina and follow your legislators.

<https://www.sctatehouse.gov/index.php>

2025 Dates to Remember

Key February General Session Dates

- Tuesday, February 4, 2025 – SCLBC Meeting – Solomon Blatt Building, Room 305 at 10:00 A.M.
- Tuesday, February 5, 2025 – Joint General Assembly Session for the Judicial Election
- Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – SCLBC Meeting – Solomon Blatt Building, Room 305 at 10:00 A.M.
- Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – SCLBC Meeting – Solomon Blatt Building, Room 305 at 10:00 A.M.
- In observance of Black History Month, the SCLBC will honor and pay homage to unsung individuals during the Legislative Session.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Screening & Pilot Episode of “Food For Thought” featuring Rep. JA Moore

February 5, 2025

6:00 & 6:30pm on ETV-HD



Delta Days at the State Capital South Carolina

February 11, 2025

Join for breakfast at Brookland before the SCLBC meeting.

The four members of Delta Sigma Theta in the SC General Assembly "the Quad"

(Sen. Devine, Sen. Bright-Matthews, Rep. McDaniel & Rep. Spann-Wilder) will be the guest panelists.

Brookland Banquet and Conference Center
1066 Sunset Boulevard
West Columbia, SC 29169

Wear your **Red & White!**

AKA Day at the Capitol

February 12, 2025

10:00am - Chamber Introduction

12:00pm - Legislators are invited to stop by Brookland Baptist Church Conference Center for Introductions and Lunch

See Rep. Dillard

- Wear your **Pink & Green!**



HBCU DAY 2025

February 18, 2025

8:30am - 12:30pm

8:30am-11:30am Solomon Blatt Building Rm 112

11:30am Press Conference State House Steps

12:00am Chamber Introduction

Legislative Kickback

SC Energy Justice Coalition

February 19, 2025

5:00pm - 8:00pm

SoulHaus Gallery

1223 Lincoln Street
Columbia, SC 29201

SCLBC Members Only



F.U.N.D.S. Inc Grand Finale Black History Parade & Festival

February 22, 2025

1-6pm

Parade starts at Hampton & Harden St.
Festival at MLK Park 2300 Greene
Street Columbia, SC

The SCBLC Members will be walking in the parade.



SC ARCHIVES AND
HISTORY CENTER
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

Space is limited. Pre-
registration is highly
recommended.

Registration Fee Per
Person:

- Regular: \$40
- Senior: \$20
- Student: \$15

*Lunch is included in
registration fee.
GF/Vegetarian options
available.

For additional conference
information and
questions contact Ayanna
Goines at:
agoines@scaahc.org or
(803)896-8256

2025 SC African American Heritage Commission Annual Conference

Saturday, February 22, 2025

Registration Link: <https://form.jotform.com/243305678390966>

Schedule

8:30AM - 8:55AM Registration

9:00AM - 9:10AM Opening Welcome

9:15AM - 10:25AM 1st Session Block

Leading the Charge: Women & Social Movements

- * The presence of Black women in social movements crosses generations. This panel will start with the Rollins sisters' role in 19th century politics, presented by historian Gracia Rich. Winthrop professor, Dr. Dixon-McKnight will continue the conversation to discuss the Black female hospital workers that organized the 1969 Charleston Hospital Workers' Campaign.

South Carolina's Forgotten Black Union Veterans and Your Community

- * Learn from University of South Carolina Beaufort's Institute for the Study of the Reconstruction Era about the 1st SC Volunteers of African Descent who served in the Union Army and how to determine if your community has connections to Black Union soldiers/veterans.

10:30AM - 11:40AM 2nd Session Block

Putting in the Work: Methods for Preserving Black History

- * Come hear from practitioners in the field on ways they have researched and preserved Black History in South Carolina. Institutions include the International African American Museum, USC Center for Civil Rights History and Research, and the University of South Carolina Beaufort.

Harvesting Heritage: Preserving Black Foodways, History, and Culture

- * This panel, with tasting samples, will discuss the history and impact of Black foodways and the ways we can use them to preserve Black history. Speakers include Ramon Jackson and Meeghan Kane from SC State Museum and Chef Amethyst Ganaway.

11:45AM - 12:55PM Lunch

1:00PM - 2:15PM 3rd Session Block

Student Research

- * Students from University of South Carolina, Allen University, and College of Charleston will discuss their current research pertaining to African American history. Topics include African-derived spirituality, the block of 1500 Harden Street and the Greyhound Bus Station sit-ins in Columbia, and John Henry McCray's papers.

2:20PM - 3:45PM Keynote Address

The Impact of Student Protests during the Civil Rights Era

- * Cecil Williams, South Carolina Civil Rights Museum, Civil Rights Photographer

2025 SC African American Heritage Commission Annual Conference

Saturday, February 22, 2025

SC Archives and History Center

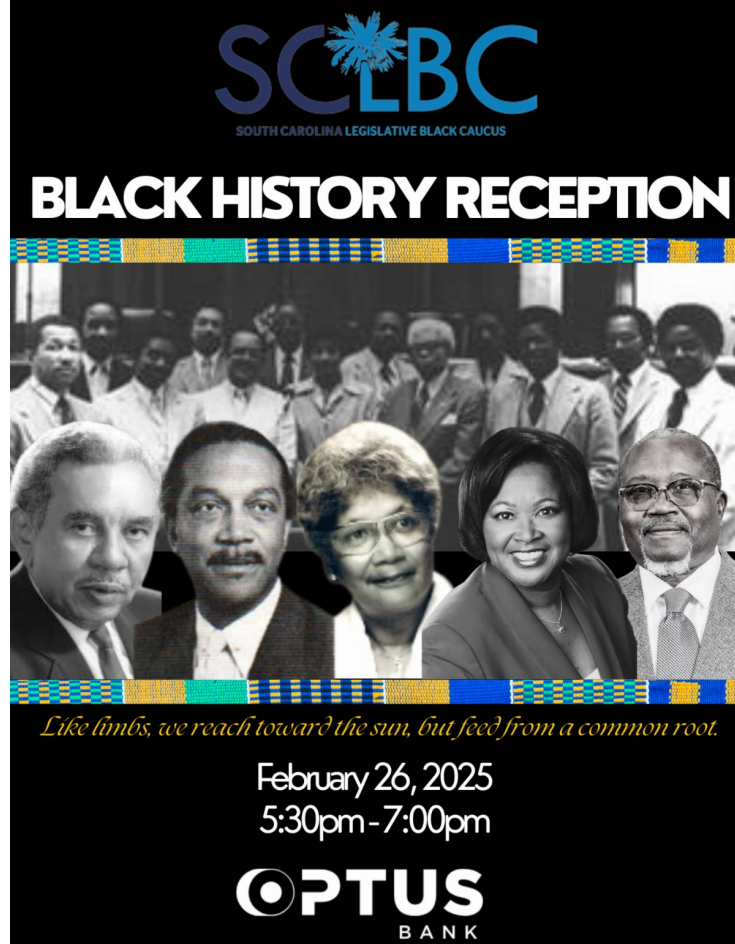
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

Register for SCAAHC Conference:

<https://form.jotform.com/243305678390966>

SCAAHC Website:

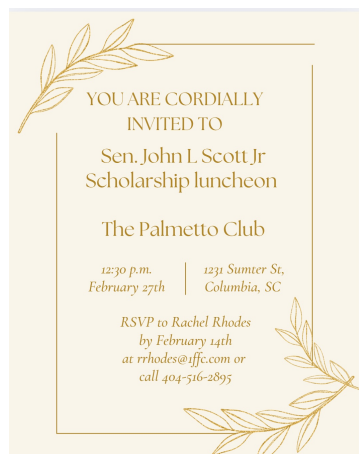
<https://www.scaahc.org/>



SCLBC BLACK HISTORY RECEPTION

OPTUS BANK
1241 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201

February 26, 2025
5:30pm - 7:00pm



SEN. JOHN L. SCOTT, JR.
SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The Palmetto Club

February 27, 2025
12:30pm

SC Legislative Black Caucus

Solomon Blatt Building Suite 207

Office Hours 10am - 4pm

803-734-3041

sclbc2025@gmail.com

2025-2026 SCLBC Executive Committee

Chair

Representative Annie E. McDaniel

District 41 - Chester, Fairfield & Richland Counties

Chair-Elect

Representative Michael Rivers

District 121 – Beaufort & Colleton Counties

Secretary

Representative Wendell Jones

District 25 – Greenville County

Treasurer

Representative Robert Williams

District 62 – Darlington & Florence Counties

Parliamentarian

Representative Heather Bauer

District 25 – Richland County

Chaplain

Representative Carl Anderson

District 103 – Berkeley, Georgetown & Horry Counties

SCLBC Corporate Roundtable Partners

The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus (SCLBC) acknowledges the invaluable contributions of our Corporate Roundtable Partners, whose active participation and generous support have been instrumental to our success. SCLBC is set apart from other political-based caucuses because of its status as a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)(4) advocacy organization. The SCLBC purpose focuses on addressing critical issues and providing impactful services, and providing public policy solutions to challenges and issues facing Black and minority communities in South Carolina. We are deeply grateful for the support of our Corporate Roundtable Partners, who play a vital role in helping us achieve our shared vision of advancing equitable policies and empowering communities across South Carolina. Together, we are making a lasting impact.

SUPPORT SCLBC BY JOINING THE CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE

CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE PARTNERS



Please contact SCLBC2025@gmail.com for information to become a 2025
SCLBC Corporate Roundtable Partner.



SC Legislative Black Caucus | 11051 Pendleton St Suite 207 | Columbia, SC 29201 US

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