SCLBC

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



"PREPARE FOR THE DECISIONS AHEAD."

Welcome to the **SEPTEMBER 2026 Newsletter** from the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus (**SCLBC**). Discover our latest initiatives, recent legislative efforts, and upcoming events shaping stronger communities across the state.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

A Message from the Chair

Representative Annie E. McDaniel | September 2026

As we enter the fall season, let us build on September's progress and prepare for the decisions ahead. The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus remains committed to listening and turning community concerns into action.

On **September 28, our Superintendents Roundtable**, "Collaborating for Student Success," brought district superintendents, education leaders, and three candidates for State Superintendent of

Education together for a productive discussion. The candidates shared their top three priorities, opening a broader conversation about barriers affecting our children's educational journey.

Participants explored student readiness to learn, parental involvement, and quality teacher recruitment and retention. Recommendations included state-supported insurance coverage for students participating in apprenticeships, incentives for districts based on student growth, and consideration of a growth-based assessment model. Superintendents will regroup and submit legislative action recommendations supported by evidence. I thank everyone who contributed to this work to help our children succeed.

South Carolina's national political role also remains strong. On September 10, the Republican National Committee preserved our state's "First in the South" position for 2028. Democrats awarded South Carolina the first official primary position on February 4, 2023, for 2024, and renewed it on August 15, 2026, for 2028. The Democratic primary is scheduled for January 22, 2028.

SCLBC 50th Anniversary Gala

I invite you to the **SCLBC 50th Anniversary Gala on November 21, 2026**, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, SC. Our theme is "Courage to Lead: Celebrating a Golden Legacy." Tickets are $100.00. Join us as we honor our legacy and celebrate the work ahead. **For ticket information**, visit **sclegislativebc.org**, email sclbc2025@gmail.com, or call 803-734-3041.

Prepare for the November 3 General Election

- **In-person registration:** Most county offices close at 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 2. Confirm your county's hours.
- **Online, email, or fax registration:** Must be received by Sunday, October 4.
- **Mail registration:** Applications must be postmarked by Monday, October 5.
- **Early voting:** October 19–31, 8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; closed Sunday, October 25.
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, November 3. Polls open 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

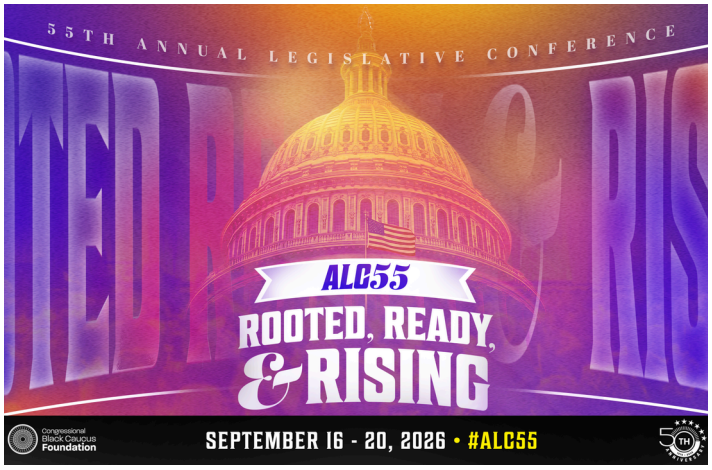
Check your registration, name, address, and polling place now at **SCVotes.gov.** If you moved to another county, register in your new county by the deadline. Check the expiration date on your photo ID and bring a current, valid accepted ID when voting. Accepted IDs include an SC driver's license, SC DMV ID card, SC voter registration card with photo, federal military ID, or U.S. passport.

If you need an accepted photo ID, obtain a free voter registration card with your photograph from your county voter registration and elections office. Free DMV identification is also available. Regardless of party affiliation, make a voting plan and encourage your family and neighbors to participate.

With faith and a commitment to service, let us enter this season ready to strengthen our schools, support our communities, and make our voices heard.

Representative Annie E. McDaniel
Chair, South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus

CBCF 55th ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



Members of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus attended the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's **55th Annual Legislative Conference**, centered around the theme "Rooted, Ready, and Rising."

The conference brought together Black leaders, advocates, and elected officials from across the country. **The Caucus used the opportunity to convene with Black elected officials from across the country** and strengthen relationships with leaders from other states. SCLBC Members engaged in meaningful conversations about the issues impacting Black communities and the importance of effective leadership.

The conference also provided an opportunity to share ideas, perspectives, and strategies for advancing progress. SCBLC Members returned inspired and ready to continue the work of advocating for South Carolina's most underserved populations and communities.



The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus continues to monitor developments around data centers, which continues to be a pressing public policy issue. The Caucus encourages all South Carolinians to stay informed about how the implementation of a data center may impact your community. To learn more about data centers, please utilize the resources below:

Video Presentation:

https://youtu.be/iyMX84LtPbs

Slide Deck Presentation:

OneDrive

Data Center Water Impact:

https://climate-xchange.org/resources-for-regulating-data-centers/water-impacts/

Data Center Electricity Impact:

https://climate-xchange.org/resources-for-regulating-data-centers/electricity-affordability-and-reliability-impacts/

Data Center Transparency Toolkit:

https://climate-xchange.org/resources-for-regulating-data-centers/transparency-and-accountability/

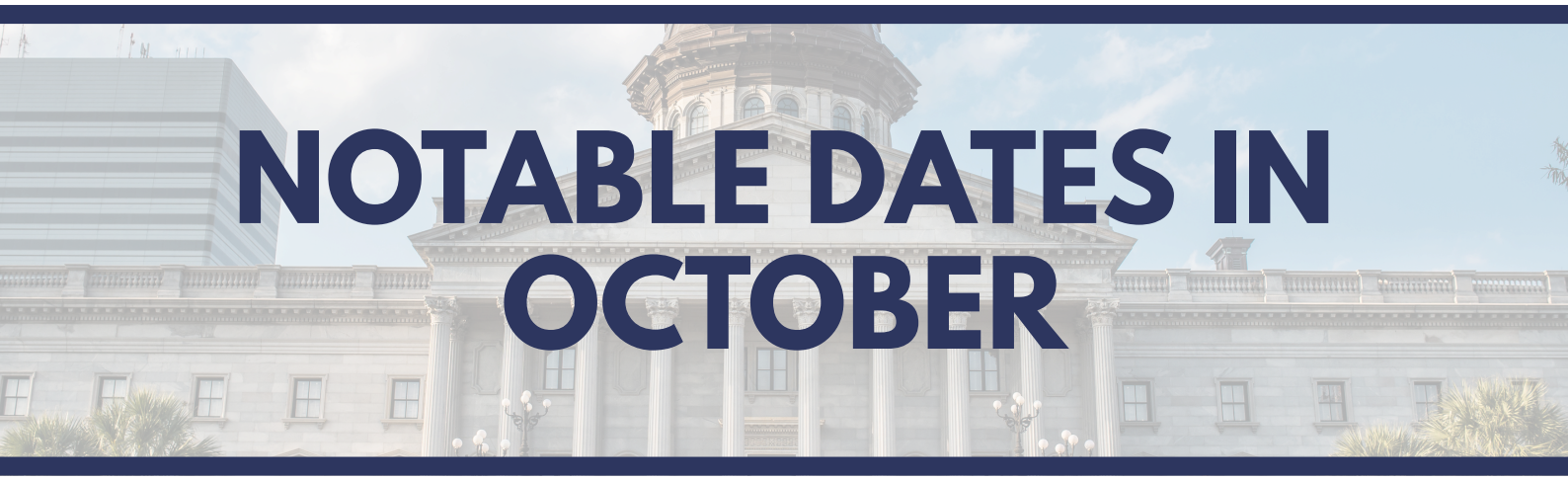


- **October 6th -** Minority Healthcare Summit (SCLBC)

- **October 29th -** South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus (SCLBC) Youth Summit

- **November 21st -** South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus (SCLBC) Gala will be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, South Carolina

- **December 8-12 -** National Black Caucus of State Legislators' (NBCSL) 50th Annual Legislative Conference



NOTABLE DATES IN OCTOBER

- **October 6 – Avery Research Center Grand Opening (1990)**

Marks the grand opening of the renovated Avery building in Charleston, which became the home of the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. The center grew from efforts to preserve the history, records, and cultural heritage of African Americans in the South Carolina Lowcountry.

- **October 8 – Birth of Rev. Jesse Jackson (1941)**

Honors civil rights leader, minister, and political activist Jesse Louis Jackson, who was born in Greenville, South Carolina. A graduate of Greenville's segregated Sterling High School, Jackson became a prominent organizer in the Civil Rights Movement, worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and later founded Operation PUSH and the National Rainbow Coalition.

- **October 11 – Birth of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates (1907)**

Honors Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates, the internationally recognized African American tap dancer born in Fountain Inn, South Carolina. After losing a leg in a cotton-mill accident as a child, Bates developed a distinctive style of tap dancing and went on to perform on major stages and television, including numerous appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

- **October 25 – I. DeQuincey Newman Becomes First African American State Senator Since Reconstruction (1983)**

Recognizes the election of Reverend I. DeQuincey Newman to the South Carolina Senate, making him the first African American to serve in the state senate since Reconstruction. A longtime civil rights leader and NAACP organizer, Newman had spent decades advocating for voting rights, education, and racial equality in South Carolina.

- **October 26 – Birth of Rev. Dr. Benjamin James Glover (1915)**

Honors Rev. Dr. Benjamin James Glover, born in the Promised Land community near Greenwood, South Carolina. Glover was a longtime educator, pastor, civil rights activist, and leader at Allen University and Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston. He participated in marches and sit-ins during the Civil Rights Movement and helped challenge racial segregation in South Carolina's public schools.

OCTOBER MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Senator Karl Allen
October 13



Representative Kambrell Garvin
October 2



Representative Leon Howard
October 6



Representative Todd Rutherford
October 10



Representative Michael Rivers
October 16



South Carolina: Election Tools, Deadlines, Dates, Rules, and Links:

https://www.vote.org/south-carolina/

South Carolina State House

Learn how to contact your state representative, keep up with legislative bills, view the Senate and House when they are in session, find out committee meeting schedules.

https://www.scstatehouse.gov/index.php or download the SC State House App

South Carolina Legislative Manual

Access the SC Legislative Manual online and learn about the state.
https://www.scstatehouse.gov/man24/manual24.php

Energy Assistance & Rebate Programs

Find energy assistance programs for your home.

https://energy.sc.gov/home/ebill

South Carolina Education Association

Find learning resources for your child.

https://www.thescea.org/student-success

South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs

Provides certification for minority businesses.

https://cma.sc.gov/small-business-resources

South Carolina Department of Commerce

Start your own business.

https://scbizdev.sccommerce.com/#StartYourBusiness

MyscVOTES

Register to vote online.

https://vrems.scvotes.sc.gov/ovr/start

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

Learn how your small business can be brought to the table that is dominated by big businesses.

https://sustainableagriculture.net/our-work/issues/rural-economic-development/

USDA Rural Development

Find out how to access loans and grants for home, businesses, communities, etc.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-business development-grants-21#:~:text=Rural Business Development Grant money, check eligible areas.

South Carolina Association for Rural Economic Development

Learn how to get grants for community development initiatives.

https://www.scaced.org/rural-resource-coalition-of-sc

National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL) Empowers Black Women legislators with world-class leadership development.

https://www.nobelwomen.org/

National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL)

Dedicated to promoting educational, research, and training initiatives that assist its members to make informed decisions.

https://nbcsl.org/about/

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

Dedicated to promoting educational, research, and training initiatives that assist its members to make informed decisions.

https://www.cbcfinc.org/

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

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2025-2026 SCLBC Executive Committee

Chairwoman

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

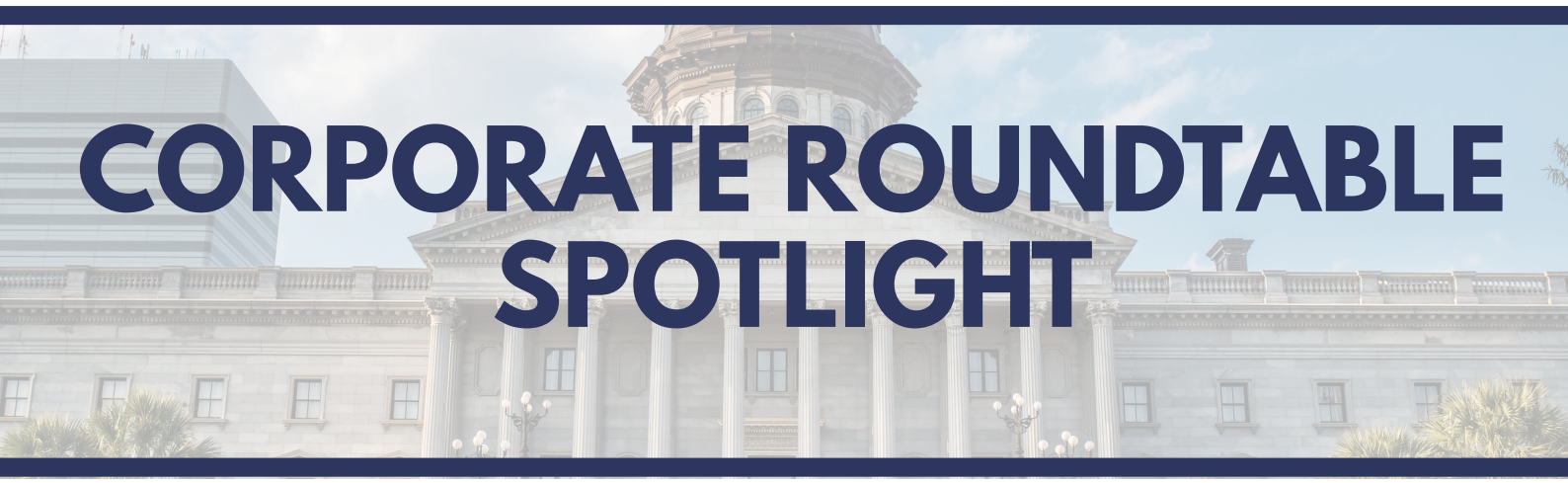
Representative Heather Bauer

District 25 – Richland County

Chaplain

Representative Carl Anderson

District 103 – Berkeley, Georgetown & Horry Counties



CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE SPOTLIGHT

Website: https://www.duke-energy.com/community

For more than a century, Duke Energy has supported the communities it serves through charitable giving and employee volunteerism. The company recognizes that the decisions made today play an important role in shaping its long-term future. By investing in community resources and support systems, Duke Energy continues to help ensure communities have the tools they need to grow and thrive for years to come.

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Charlotte, NC 28201

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, 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.

DUKE ENERGY®

Dominion Energy®

BlueCross BlueShield

Spectrum

Charter COMMUNICATIONS

NUCOR®

SCR SOUTH CAROLINA REALTORS®

k12®

SCOPA South Carolina Optometric Physicians Association

MAYNARDNEXSEN

South Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthesiology Founded in 1951

South Carolina Association for Justice Advocates for Fairness Under the Law.

THE SCEA

SUPPORT THE SCLBC BY JOINING THE CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE

Please email sclbc2025@gmail.com for information on how to become a 2026 SCLBC Corporate Roundtable Partner.

SCLBC WEBSITE

A PRINTABLE VERSION IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE