SCLBC

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER



"GET INVOLVED."

Welcome to the **August 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.

CHAIRWOMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Caucus,

As we conclude an active summer legislative period, I want to thank each of you for your unwavering commitment to our constituents and your leadership across our state.

Below is a comprehensive summary of the General Assembly's recent actions regarding the state operating budget during our specialized legislative reconvening's on August 11 and August 25.

1. General Assembly Reconvening: August 11, 2026

- **Adoption of Main Budget:** The General Assembly returned to Columbia on August 11 to complete legislative action on the FY 2026–2027 state operating budget. Both the House and Senate adopted the budget Conference Committee report (**H. 5126**) to fund essential government operations, key public safety measures, and education investments.
- **Separation of Earmarks:** The main spending package passed without including community benefit projects (earmarks). Lawmakers separated local district requests into standalone measures to be evaluated outside of the main budget bill.
- **Budget Ratification:** Following chamber approvals, H. 5126 was formally ratified on the afternoon of August 11 and transmitted to Governor Henry McMaster.

2. Executive Vetoes Issued: Following ratification, Governor Henry McMaster reviewed the spending package and **issued 14 line-item vetoes** on specific budget provisos.

3. General Assembly Reconvening: August 25, 2026

- **Action on Local Earmarks:** The General Assembly was **called back into session for a single day on Tuesday, August 25**. Our primary focus during this session was finalizing legislation concerning local infrastructure, economic development, and community investment projects (earmarks) to ensure our local towns and non-profit partners receive critical state support.

- **Status of Line-Item Vetoes:** During the August 25 session, the General Assembly **did not take up or vote on the Governor's 14 line-item vetoes**.
- **Final Disposition:** Because the General Assembly chose not to take up override votes during the August 25 session, all 14 of the Governor's line-item vetoes **stand as issued**. The vetoed provisos and line items drop from the final enacted state budget without legislative challenge.

As we move toward the fall, our caucus remains dedicated to monitoring the implementation of this budget, advocating for equitable resource allocation, and preparing our legislative agenda for the upcoming session.

Please get involved in the 2026 general election season and advocate for the candidates of your choice in every way you can.

Thank you for your dedicated service to the people of South Carolina.

In Unity and Service,

Representative Annie E. McDaniel,

Chair, South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus

District 41 (Chester, Fairfield & Richland Counties)

LEGISLATIVE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Legislative Staff Spotlight: Caleb Justin Dixon



Caleb Justin Dixon

The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus extends congratulations to Caleb Justin Dixon for being featured in the "Legislative Staff Spotlight" within the **National Black Caucus of State Legislators'** (NBCSL) August 2026 Newsletter. As a first-generation Morehouse College graduate, Caleb serves as a Legislative Affairs Manager in the South Carolina House of Representatives. In this role, Caleb serves Representatives Annie E. McDaniel, Jermaine L. Johnson Sr., Heather Bauer, and Greg Ford.

The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus encourages you to read **NBCSL's August 2026 Newsletter. We proudly recognize Caleb for his dedication to South Carolina public service!**

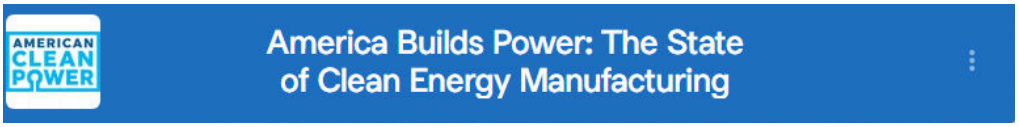
NBCSL FALL REGIONAL MEETING: HELD IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Representative Annie E. McDaniel and Representative John King attended the NBCSL Fall Regional Meeting hosted in Detroit, Michigan. Black State Legislators from across the country convened from **Thursday, August 20, 2026, to Saturday, August 22, 2026,** to discuss relevant public policy matters that impact their respective districts.



NBCSL Fall 2026 Detroit Regional Meeting Group Photo

NBCSL "Policy Session I" Resources



https://cleanpower.org/resources/america-builds-power-fact-sheet/

US National Power Demand Study | American Clean Power

https://cleanpower.org/resources/us-national-power-demand-study-one-pager/

Energy Grid Information | Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure

aii.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Energy-Grid-One-Pager.pdf

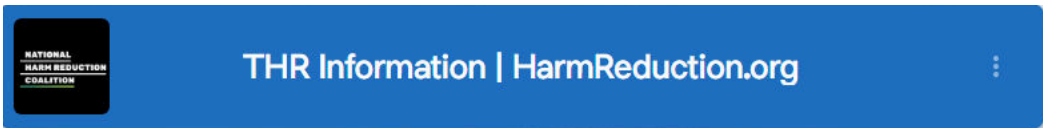
The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus acknowledges the attendance of Tigerron "Tiger" Wells, Vice President of Government Affairs for Duke Energy. Tigerron was a featured panelist during the "Policy Session I" panel, which focused on energy grid modernization, affordability, and building sustainable communities.





Tigerron Wells, Vice President of Government Affairs, Duke Energy

NBCSL "Policy Session II" Resources



https://harmreduction.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/THR-one-pager.pdf



https://center-forward.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Final-Tobacco-Harm-Reduction.pdf



https://oktoquit.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Patient-Tobacco-Cessation-Education-One-Pager.pdf



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/



- **September 16-20 -** Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's (CBCF) 55th Annual Legislative Conference

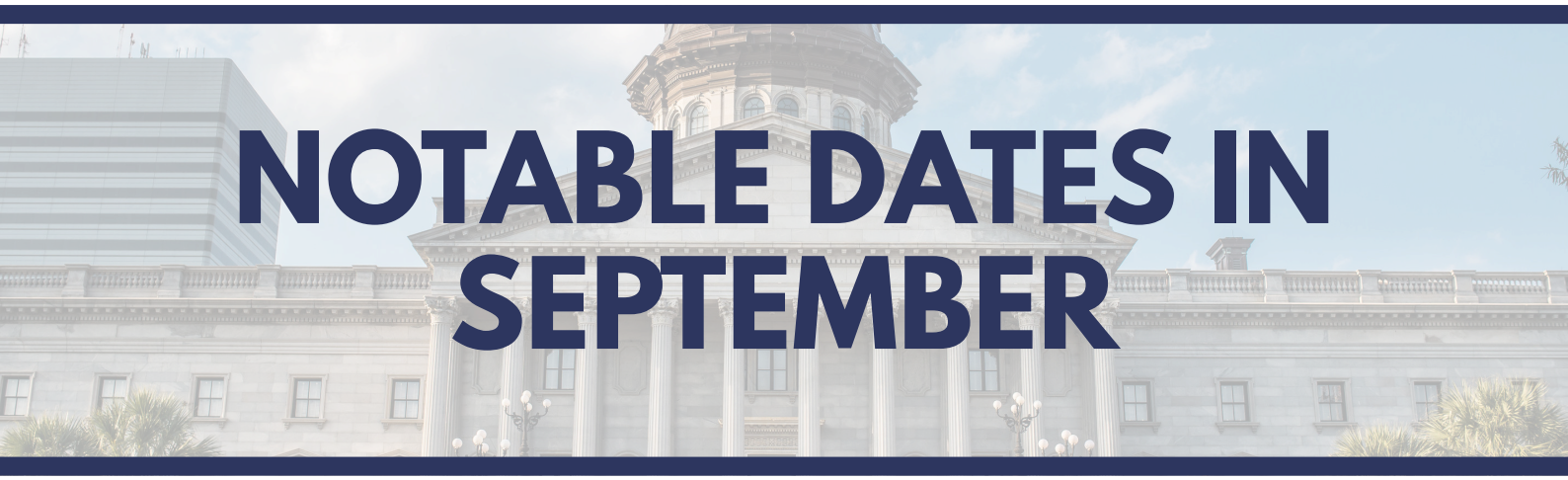
- **September 28th -** Superintendent's Summit (SCLBC)

- **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 in Columbia, South Carolina

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



NOTABLE DATES IN SEPTEMBER

- **September 1 – Jasper Cureton Sworn in SC Court (1983)**

Recognizes the date that Jasper Cureton was sworn in as the First African American member of a newly formed South Carolina Appeals Court.

- **September 2 – First African American Woman Elected to Congress (1968)**

Shirley Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress when she won a seat representing New York's 12th Congressional District. Her historic election opened new doors for Black women in politics.

- **September 4 – Little Rock Nine Begin Desegregation Effort (1957)**

Nine Black students attempted to enter Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, challenging the state's resistance to school desegregation. Their courage became a defining moment in the struggle to enforce *Brown v. Board of Education*.

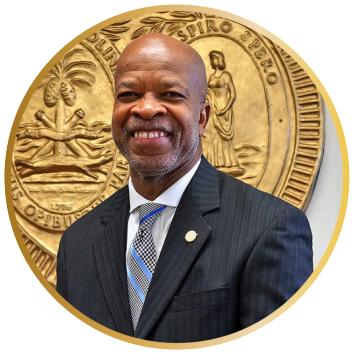
- **September 18 – Birth of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune (1875)**

Honors the South Carolina-born educator, organizer, presidential adviser, and civil rights leader. Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women and became one of the most influential Black women leaders of the 20th century.

- **September 30 – Birth of W.E.B. Du Bois (1868)**

Honors scholar, author, educator, sociologist, and civil rights leader W.E.B. Du Bois, a co-founder of the NAACP and a major intellectual figure in the fight for racial equality and Black political empowerment.

SEPTEMBER MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Senator Ronnie Sabb
September 2



Senator Kent Williams
September 15



Representative Chris Hart
September 22



Representative J. David Weeks
September 24



RESOURCES

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

Solomon Blatt Building – Suite 207
Columbia, SC 29201
Office Hours: Tues – Thurs 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

sclbc2025@gmail.com

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.

Headquarters
525 S. Tryon St.
Charlotte, NC 28202

Mailing Address
PO Box 1094
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 The South Carolina Education Association Your Voice. Our Power. Their Future.

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