

MINUTES

Policy and Legislation Committee

Tuesday, August 4, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

P&L Committee Members in Attendance:

Chair Dr. David Mathis, <i>Second Judicial Circuit</i>	Dr. Christian T. Hanley, <i>Ninth Judicial Circuit</i>
Chair-Elect Joyce Crimminger, <i>Sixth Judicial Circuit</i>	Dr. Joette Johnson, <i>Seventh Judicial Circuit</i>
Jacqueline Lynn, <i>Fourth Judicial Circuit</i>	Cliff Warren, <i>Fourteenth Judicial Circuit</i>

Also in Attendance:

Donna Elmore, <i>First Judicial Circuit</i>	Ken Richardson, <i>Fifteenth Judicial Circuit</i>
Virginia Catoe, <i>Fifth Judicial Circuit</i>	Joey Haney, <i>Sixteenth Judicial Circuit</i>
David Trent, <i>Eighth Judicial Circuit</i>	Rita Allison, <i>Governor's Appointee</i>
	Makenzie Segars, <i>Assistant Deputy General Counsel</i>

- I. WELCOME AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:** The Policy and Legislation Committee convened at 9:00 a.m. Chair Mathis called the meeting to order, welcomed all present and confirmed the presence of a quorum.
- II. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR MAY 5, 2026:** The minutes of the regular Policy and Legislation meeting for May 5, 2026 was approved by unanimous consent.
- III. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE AGENDA FOR AUGUST 4, 2026:** The agenda for the August 4, 2026, meeting was approved by unanimous vote.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND NEWS MEDIA:** Chair Mathis welcomed any media and visitors present and/or viewing online.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no participants for public comment.
- VI. COMMITTEE ITEMS:**

FOR APPROVAL

No items.

FOR INFORMATION

1. 2026 General Assembly Legislative Session Recap—Phillip Cease, Director of Government Affairs

There were no items for Approval before the Committee.

Phillip Cease provided an overview of the 2025-2026 legislative session, highlighting key budget updates, newly enacted laws, and provisos affecting the South Carolina Department of Education. He discussed policy changes related to school governance, student discipline, charter school accountability, physical education and recess requirements, athletic association oversight, grading practices, and services provided by private providers. He also reviewed education-related funding allocations and significant budget provisos impacting school districts across the state.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA There were no items to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT Chair Mathis requested a motion for adjournment. Chair-Elect Crimminger made a motion, Dr. Christian Hanley seconded. The Committee adjourned at 9:22 a.m.