



Legislative Update for May 9-May 11, 2017

Senate Bill 302 (Corrections Construction and Renovation Public Safety Act)
Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: *Senator Ward*

This bill is a scaled down version of SB 59. It allows for \$350 million in bonds to renovate existing prison facilities and to construct 1 new prison upon the lease of two prison facilities from local authorities. It still uses the funding for Confederate Memorial Park as a second priority security for the bond issue.

****Update:** Bill had a public hearing in Judiciary committee on May 10, no vote was taken.

Senate Bill 60 (Moving or renaming Monuments)
Committee: Governmental Affairs

Sponsor: *Senator Allen*

The bill was substituted at the start of the Committee meeting. No monument located on public property that has been situated there for over 50 years can be relocated, moved, altered, or renamed or otherwise disturbed. Monuments on public property that have been there less than 50 years must go before a review committee before it can potentially be relocated, moved, altered, or renamed. This bill had a third reading in the Senate and a substitute was introduced with an amendment that changes the threshold from 50 years to 20 years for monuments and “architecturally significant buildings”. It also adds the AHC to the State Committee. This bill was voted favorably out of the Senate.

****Update:** This bill was sent to conference committee on May 11 to work out differences.

Senate Bill 129 (Education Budgets)
Committees: Finance and Taxation Education

Sponsor: *Senator Orr*

The AHC is included in the Education Trust Fund Budget with an appropriation of \$900,000. The majority of these funds are for grants to other entities.

****Update:** The Senate on May 9 did not agree with House changes and appointed members to a conference committee and then sent the bill back to the House, where on May 11 they appointed members to the conference committee.

House Bill 155 (General Fund Budget)

Sponsor: *Representative Clouse*

Committee: Ways & Means General Fund

The AHC has been appropriated level funding in this budget.

****Update:** Both Houses have agreed and the General Fund Budget has been sent to the Governor for her signature on May 11.

House Bill 345 (Historic State Tax Credit Bill)

Sponsor: *Representative Gaston*

Committee(s): Ways & Means Education

This bill establishes a new income tax credit for rehabilitation, preservation, or development of certified historic structures, beginning in 2018 and runs through 2022. This bill allows for a maximum of twenty million dollars per year of tax credits.

****Update:** This bill passed its 3rd reading on May 9 in the Senate and was sent back to the House to concur or send to a conference committee.

Senate Bill 308 (Supplemental ETF Appropriations)

Sponsor: *Senator Orr*

Committee: Finance and Taxation Education

This bill adds language to the AHC's FY 17 appropriation that allows the Commission to appropriate \$300,000 to the Alabama Bicentennial Commission Foundation.

Update: No change, this bill still awaits 3rd reading in the second House.

General Information

Staff continues to monitor committee meetings and continue to meet with Senators and Representatives as needed regarding the best interest of the Alabama Historical Commission.

**denotes an update since our last reporting