



SCASPD LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 117th Session of the South Carolina General Assembly began Tuesday. This session has started off with a bang for SPD's. Several pieces of legislation have been filed, some you have seen before, that are of concern to SPD's. As stated during the 2006 Conference in Myrtle Beach, please, make every effort to develop a relationship with your Senator and House Member. They need to know how important your districts current functionality and services are to the citizens they serve!

S.201, Senator Ritchie, this bill would allow a city council to annex an area by ordinance if the area is completely surrounded by the city. The bill was introduced and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

S.202, Senator Ritchie, this bill would allow an alternate method of municipal annexation based on certain population density and development criteria. The bill was introduced and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

S.203, Senator Ritchie, this bill would change current annexation procedures by lowering from seventy-five to sixty percent of freeholders, property owners outside the city limits, who must sign a petition with the city to be annexed and lower the percentage of assessed value of property from seventy-five to sixty percent that must be owned by those property owners. The bill was introduced and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

H.3145, Representative Talley, this bill would devolve the authority for appointments and for certain offices, boards, and commissions from the joint legislative delegation representing Spartanburg County to the Spartanburg County Council.

SPD's, the time is now! Please contact your legislator and raise your concerns about these bills.

Utility Bill Audits Drive Savings Through MMO Contract

In June, the South Carolina Materials Management Office (MMO) awarded State Term Contract Number 06-S7129-A12446 to promote energy efficiency in government municipalities, special purpose districts and agencies by encouraging them to incorporate energy improvements into their master plans and to implement energy-saving measures. The SPD's newest Associate Member, Power Systems Group (PSG) is named on the Contract and has just completed projects for the City of Greenville. Says Jim Campbell, Assistant Director of the Office of Management and Budget for Greenville, "All I had to do was generate a purchase order. No up-front budget allocation was required because PSG is compensated with a share of the savings. The bottom line is that PSG quickly identified inefficiencies and waste and we're anticipating some significant savings as a result." PSG has saved more for clients in South Carolina over the last 10 years than all other energy audit services. Special Purpose Districts can expect their energy cost savings recommendations within 30 days from enrollment in the program. Roger Brown, Managing Partner of Power Systems Group and can be reached at (770) 329-7894 and at rbrown@psgenenergy.com.

