

House Republican Caucus Record on Reform

Shortening Session

A Session Shortening Bill has passed the House 10 times, but has never passed the Senate. House Republicans believe its work can be accomplished in less time and save SC taxpayers money by doing so.

Transparency & Government Efficiency

The House Republican Caucus have cut government waste and have been advocates of responsible government through their support of transparency and accountability.

Roll Call Voting State Law	2011	H. 3004	Became Law
Higher Ed. Transparency Act	2011	H. 3185	Passed House
Rep. Haley's Roll Call Voting Measures	2010 & 2009	H. 3047/House Rule	Passed House
More Transparent Campaign Disclosure	2010	H. 3066	Became Law
Commission to Streamline Government	2010	S. 897	Passed House
Sunset Commission of outdated Government Programs	2008 & 2007	H. 3192/3024	Passed House
Prevent Federal Intrusion of a National ID Card	2007	H. 3989/S. 449	Became Law

Government Restructuring/Stronger Executive Branch

The House Republican Caucus has tried many times to Restructure and improve the way our government operates by passing several reforms that would return power to the Governor.

The SC Budget & Control Board – which includes the Governor, 2 Constitutional Officers and 2 Legislators – currently controls many governmental operations usually executed by the Executive Branch alone. The Department of Administration Restructuring bills passed three times by the House would break up the power control the Budget & Control Board has and return this Executive Branch function to the Governor.

Remove power of Budget & Control Board	2011, '10, '08	H. 3066/3147/3590	Passed House
Joint Election of Governor and Lieutenant Governor	2011 & 2009	H. 3152/3231	Passed House
Constitutional Officers Appointed by Governor	2011, '08, '05	H. 3070/4620/3011	Passed House
Combine Dept. of PPP & COC	2011	H. 3267	Passed House

Tax Cuts

The House Republican Caucus believes in lower taxes and smaller government. Since gaining a majority, House Republicans have returned over \$20 billion back to South Carolina taxpayers. In 2007, this included a personal income tax cut which was a significant part of that year's \$221 million tax cut – the largest ever recurring tax cut in our state's history. Even during difficult budget times House Republicans have protected all these tax cuts, choosing to cut government spending instead of raising taxes.

SC Taxpayer Fairness Act	2011	H. 3419	Passed House
Elimination of the Corporate Income Tax	2010	H. 4478	Passed House
Point of Sale Reform for Homeowners	2011, '09, '08	H. 3713/3272/4942	Passed House
Elimination of Fire Sprinkler Tax	2008	H. 4470	Became Law
Marriage Tax Cut	2008	H. 4550	Passed House
Personal Income Tax Cut & Elimination of Grocery Sales Tax	2007	S. 656	Became Law
Cut Property Taxes by Half	2006	H. 4449/4450	Became Law
Targeted Jobs Tax Credit	2006	H. 4800	Became Law
Income Tax Reduction Act	2005	H. 3007	Became Law

Limiting Government Spending

Controlling the growth of government and limiting spending are core fiscal conservative values. Republican Leaders have approved balanced budgets every year and successfully held government growth to less than 3% a year – a rate which is even less than proposed spending caps.

Approved Balanced Budget	Every Year		
Increase General Reserve Fund – 3% to 5%	2010	H. 3395/3396	Became Law
Elimination of Hidden Earmark Spending	2008	House Rule/H. 4346	Passed House
Spending Limit Bill	Passed House 6 times in past dozen years		

Government Reform

Inefficiencies and lack of accountability waste taxpayer dollars. Government agencies must be held accountable and function efficiently to properly serve the people. The House Republican Caucus has challenged the status quo by stepping in with conservative reforms to restore transparency and accountability.

Repeal Amendment	2011	H. 3507	Passed House
Regulatory Reform Act	2011	H. 3226	Passed House
ESC Reform/Dept. of Workforce	2010	H. 3442/S. 391	Became Law
DUI Reform	2008	H. 3496	Became Law
Workers' Comp. Reform	2007	S. 332	Became Law
Department of Transportation Reform	2007	S. 355	Became Law

Strong Economy & Jobs

A strong private sector economy, driven by free markets, creates jobs and prosperity. Getting government red tape out of the way of businesses is essential to growing a strong economy. House Republicans have passed conservative legislation that allows businesses to grow and create new jobs. They believe that the private sector – not government – needs to be the one that drives our state's economic recovery.

Business Tort Reform	2011 & 2010	H. 3375/3489	Passed House
Bill Wylie Entrepreneurship Act	2011	H. 3779	Passed House
Economic Development Competitiveness Act	2010	H. 4478	Became law
Small Business Red Tape Reduction Act	2009	H. 3882	Passed House
Economic Development Protection Act (Tort Reform)	2005	H. 3008	Became law

Protecting Citizens' Rights

Freedom and individual liberty are the founding principles that created America. Those rights must be vigorously defended if we are to remain a successful free society. The House Republican Caucus has always acted to protect the rights of our state's people.

Must show picture ID to Vote	2011 & 2010	H. 3003/3418	Became law
Workers' Right to a Secret Ballot in Union Elections	2010	H. 3305	Became law
10th Amendment Bill & State's Rights	2010	H. 3509	Passed House
Second Amendment Protection Acts	2008	S. 1143/S. 1039	Became law
Protections of private property from government takeover	2006	H. 4503/S. 1031	Became law

Illegal Immigration

In 2008, the House Republican Caucus led in this effort and passed the strongest illegal immigration laws in the country.

Arizona-style Illegal Immigration Bill	2011	S. 20	Passed House
Illegal Immigration Reform	2008	H. 4400	Became law
Illegal Immigration Bills	2007	H. 3025/3032/3149	Passed House
Illegal Aliens and Public Employment Act	2006	H. 5057	Passed House