

2025-26 Legislative Session Recap

The following are updates on legislation tracked by ProTruth South Carolina this session. Bill numbers in blue include links to the current language of each bill or Act.

What Passed?

- [H. 4756](#), an anti-LGBTQ+ “bathroom bill,” passed on the last day of session. It requires transgender and nonbinary students to use either a bathroom that aligns with their state-assigned gender, or a single-use facility, which can include a port-a-potty under the law. This law is unscientific, discriminatory, and cruel.
- [S. 416](#), which among other things gives students under threat of expulsion greater due process rights, passed without additional harmful language, a big win for pro-student advocacy organizations.
- [S. 508](#), which expands the South Carolina “Heritage Act” to make it illegal for entities (including local governments and historical societies) to update historical monuments, even for the purpose of more accurately reflecting history.

What is Still at Play?

- [The State Budget](#) is not finalized. Senate and House versions include a proviso which censors teaching related to race and gender. The same language has been used to restrict AP African American studies and ban more books statewide than any other state.
- **Gerrymandering:** After promising not to do so, Gov. McMaster called the legislature to special session for mid-decade redistricting (instead of waiting for accurate information in the next census). This effort is likely to be expensive and to dilute the voting power of citizens of color.

What Might Come Back Next Session?

- [H. 4757](#), which gives individual parents greater power to restrict teaching about diverse groups of people, including LGBTQ+ people, ended session in the Senate Education Committee. It can still pass next session.
- [H. 5483](#), a “teacher authority” bill, still has problematic language allowing educators to use “reasonable physical force” against students, including to “protect property,” and still threatens to add to the disproportionate suspension and expulsion of vulnerable students and students of color. We hope legislators will listen to educators and experts as they revise this bill.

Contact your SC legislators to voice concerns about, or to support, any legislation:

tinyurl.com/bddt5ayw.