

# Pre-filed Legislation to Watch 2025-26

Heading into the 2026 legislative session, members of the SC House and Senate have pre-filed a large number of bills that potentially impact South Carolina students and educators. The following is a brief rundown, with links to the bills, of some of the legislation ProTruthSC is tracking as we prepare to defend intellectual freedom in South Carolina this session.

**Click on individual bill numbers to access the full text of each bill.**

**Bills promoting “parental rights”. (While we support the rights of parents to be involved in education, “parental rights” is often a codeword used by Moms for Liberty and other groups to give individual parents power over educational decisions that impact all students.)**

- [H. 4757](#): gives individual parents greater power to restrict teaching about diverse groups of people, including LGBTQ+ people.
- [H. 4725](#): requires recording of instruction, which may create issues around school privacy, and may also promote further doxxing and harassment of school staff.

**Bills attacking diversity, equity, and inclusion programs:**

- [S. 686](#): While this bill claims to oppose discrimination in awarding contracts and grants, it also would make it illegal to award contracts and grants that address ongoing discrimination and disparities in diversity.
- [S. 696](#): Similarly, this bill prohibits the state’s Judicial Merit Selection Committee from considering ways to select and hire judges that represent the demographic diversity of the state.

**Bills which encourage partisanship in school operations:**

- [H. 4664](#): This bill would make school board elections in Greenville County, the state’s largest school district, politically partisan. School board elections are traditionally nonpartisan.
- [H. 4685](#): repeals an existing section of state law protecting citizens from politically-motivated firings, assaults, and evictions.

**Bills which discriminate against LGBTQ+ students:**

- [H. 4756](#) and [S. 199](#) prohibit schools from allowing transgender and nonbinary students from using restrooms which align with their gender identities.

**Bills which seek to move state funding to private and religious institutions, without requiring a transparent and accurate education:**

- [S. 692](#): refines and expands the terms of the state’s current voucher (“Education Savings Trust Fund”) law, which legal experts argue is already unconstitutional under the state constitution.

**Bills which impact the operation of libraries and institutions of higher learning:**

- [S. 707](#): Prohibits public library boards from preferring candidates with certifications from the American Library Association.
- [S. 733](#): Prohibits public libraries to allow volunteers who are “drag” performers (this term is not defined, so it may be broadly interpreted) from reading to children.

**All pre-filed legislation for this session can be found here: [tinyurl.com/bddt5ayw](https://tinyurl.com/bddt5ayw). Pre-filed bills to watch from last session, which may be carried over to this session, can be found on our previous explainer, here: [tinyurl.com/3mzef8bw](https://tinyurl.com/3mzef8bw)**

**Contact your SC legislators to voice concerns about, or to support, any legislation: [tinyurl.com/bddt5ayw](https://tinyurl.com/bddt5ayw).**