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State Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, says he plans to introduce an anti-abortion bill at a press conference on Jan. 13.
PHOTOS BY BELLA CARPENTIER/GREENVILLE NEWS

Two Upstate lawmakers propose anti-abortion bills

Bella Carpentier
Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Two Upstate lawmakers stood in the second-floor lobby of the South Carolina statehouse hours before the start of the 2026 legislative session and introduced efforts seeking to ban abortion.

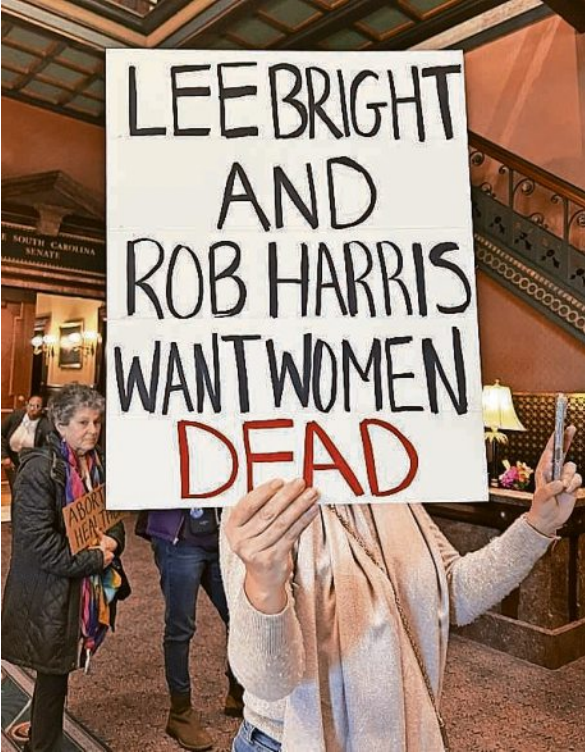
State Rep. Rob Harris, R-Spartanburg, and State Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, spoke on Jan. 13, the first day of the legislative session, about abortion legislation each plan to sponsor.

Harris touted H.3537, a bill that he sponsored in the last legislative session that would amend the state law to expand the definition of “person” to include fetuses. The change would extend homicide and assault charges to cover abortions. The lawmaker said South Carolina’s current fetal heart-beat law, which bans abortion after a heartbeat is detectable, is not enough to stop abortions in the state.

The bill will get a hearing at a noon meeting of the judiciary constitutional laws subcommittee on Jan. 14.

“Clearly, life begins at conception and should be protected from that point on,” Harris said. “Understanding this desperate situation with no intention

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Christine Simmons of Columbia carries a sign in opposition to anti-abortion bills.

Greenville officer ambush captured by camera

Nina Tran
Greenville News
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Surveillance footage has been released by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) of the ambush-style attack of a Greenville police officer.

Greenville Police said an officer was shot multiple times while sitting in his patrol car before 2 a.m. on Jan. 11 outside the headquarters at 4 McGee St. SLED confirmed that incendiary shots were used in the ambush.

In the footage, a suspect can be seen driving up to the officer’s patrol vehicle before firing incendiary

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SC health advocates respond to Trump admin’s vaccine policy

Baker Maultsby
Greenville News
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

As a public health researcher, Anthony Alberg “can’t think of anything more tragic” than an seeing preventable deaths become more common.

But that’s what he thinks is likely to happen as a result of the Trump administration’s revisions to recommendations regarding certain childhood vaccines.

“What this is going to lead to is a very tragic circumstance in which the incidence of preventable disease is increased as well as hospitalizations and deaths that could have been prevented,” said Alberg, who serves as chair of the department of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of South

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