

# The Times Examiner

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INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE VOICE OF THE PALMETTO STATE



# Senator Rankin Assigns the SC Personhood Act to a Favorable Judicial Subcommittee

Staff Report

On March 22nd, Senator Rankin, whether in response to phone calls and emails regarding S.217/(H.3530), or not, has assigned the SC Personhood Act to a Judiciary Subcommittee with a public hearing scheduled for Thursday, March 30th. The committee consists of five Senators: Margie Matthews (D) - chair: Mike Gambrell (R); Mia McLeod (D); Rex Rice (R) and Scott Talley (R). Three Subcommittee members support S.217 while two, including the chairwoman, oppose it.

Senator Rex Rice is the primary sponsor of S.217 with Gambrell and Talley both signed on as co-sponsors. There are now 18 SC Senate Sponsors (17 Republicans, 1 Democrat). The SC Senate presently has 26 Republican Senators, 18 Democrat Senators, (one Senator has been indicted and suspended by Lt. Governor Bryant).

Lt. Governor Kevin Bryant says he plans to be present at the Subcommittee hearing to observe and to make brief comments.

When the Personhood Act passes out of the Subcommittee, it can reach the full committee as early as Tuesday. There are 22 members on the Judicial Committee, 9 of which are already co-sponsors.

It is important to remember that *Supreme Court opinions do not become law binding on the whole country. Their opinions only bind the parties of a specific case. From constitutional text,*

*a statute enacted by Congress is the supreme law of the land only if made "pursuant to" (in conformity with) the Constitution. The Constitution's writers knew that a court opinion could never be law: much less the supreme law of the land. That is why (the) Constitution (was put) in writing -- so that the founding laws and principles would not be mistaken or forgotten. The Constitution would become the fixed law of the land (History & Law: Christine Ross and Herbert W. Titus, JD) Roe v. Wade is NOT legitimate law.*

Our State representatives are only clarifying that the right to life for each born and preborn human being vests at fertilization and that the rights of due process and equal protection, guaranteed by Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of this State, vest at fertilization for each born and preborn human being: what had always been assumed before eugenics became an acceptable method of birth control and before killing the preborn became so immensely profitable. The presumption of the sanctity of life yielded to the convenience of "improving" the human population and financial gain.

### ACTION UPDATE:

- Thank Senator Luke Rankin (R) for assigning S.217 to a Judicial Subcommittee
- Request Senator Rankin to co-sponsor the SC Personhood Act.
- Ask Senator Rankin to vote in support of S.217 without any

amendments in the full Judiciary Committee which he chairs, (meeting possibly as soon as Tuesday, April 4).

The Senate Judiciary Committee consists of Senators: Rankin/chairman (R), Hutto (D), Malloy (D), Campsen (R), Massey (R), Johnson (D), McElveen (D), \*Shealy (R), \*Turner (R), \*Young (R), Klimpson (D), Sabb (D), Matthews (D), \*Gambrell (R), \*Climer (R), Fanning (D), \*Goldfinch (R), McLeod (D), \*Rice (R), Senn (R), \*Talley (R), and \*Timmons (R). \*s indicate those who have already signed onto S.217 as co-sponsors.

- Contact the members of the Judiciary Committee asking that they vote in support of S.217 without any amendments. Should they hold an opposing position, ask that they abstain from voting to allow it to reach the floor for debate.

The Subcommittee Hearing is scheduled Thursday, March 30th, 9:30 am, in Room 308, Senate Gressette Bldg., Columbia.

Contact information: Senator Luke Rankin may be contacted at 803.212.6610 or online at [www.scstatehouse.gov](http://www.scstatehouse.gov): go to, "senate," go to "members," select Sen. Rankin, or any of the other Judicial Committee members, and use "send message to..." to deliver your request for sponsorship of S.217 and for a favorable vote on SC Personhood.