

## SC YIG Bill Brainstorming

Ideas for state laws come from citizens who have ideas on how to improve their lives. There are many laws already in existence in South Carolina, but these laws can be amended for further improvement.

Your idea for a bill must be for a law that does not yet exist, an amendment to an existing law, or an amendment to the South Carolina State Constitution. Brainstorm a list of ideas related to these issues that you find interesting. Think of some issues facing society that you find interesting. This means that you will need to do some RESEARCH. Some topics for ideas are:

- 1. Education
- 2. Green Technology
- 3. Public Health and Safety
- 4. Crime
- 5. Pollution
- 6. Business Regulations

- 7. Tax policy
- 8. Civil Rights
- 9. Unemployment
- 10. Gun Regulations
- 11. Social Assistance Programs
- 12. Voting regulations

Still having trouble coming up with an idea? Ask yourself these questions:

- 1. What conditions exist in your schools that make it difficult for you to get the best education?
- 2. What conditions exist in your cities that make it difficult for you to feel safe?
- 3. Are there enough employment opportunities for your family and those in your community?
- 4. Does your family have health care?
- 5. Do you agree with the current laws for obtaining a weapon?
- 6. Does your city have enough opportunities for recreation?
- 7. Does your city have adequate transportation systems?
- 8. Is there a social program that you think should or should not be sponsored by the state?
- 9. Are there tax policies that you think should or should not be implemented by your state? Or are is there a lack or surplus of government funding that would call for a revision of tax policy?



You can also:

Study newspaper editorials and local, state and national sections.
Make appointments with community leaders and interview them, such as newspaper editors, city officials, public officials and their staff, League of Women Voters officers, civic club leaders, attorneys, ministers, social workers, union leaders, law enforcement officers, physicians, AND, last but not least, YOUR PARENTS and TEACHERS.

Ask these people what they feel is the most important issue affecting the state which might be discussed in a forum such as the state legislature.

Develop a list of possible topics on which to write a bill.

Decide which of these you feel are most important and you are the most passionate about. Explore these topics for with study and research in your library or on the internet. Make sure it is something that the state legislature has the authority to change.