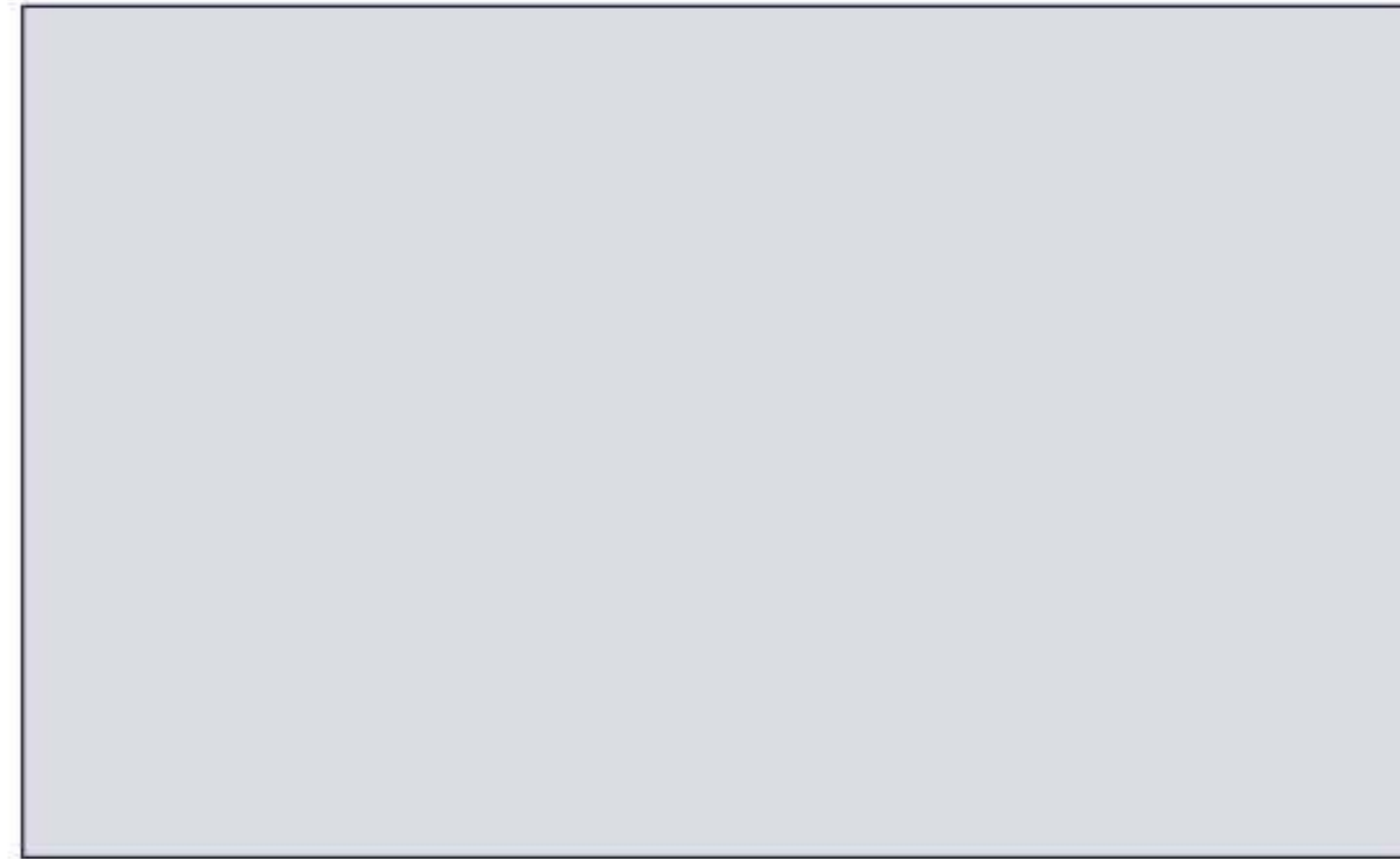




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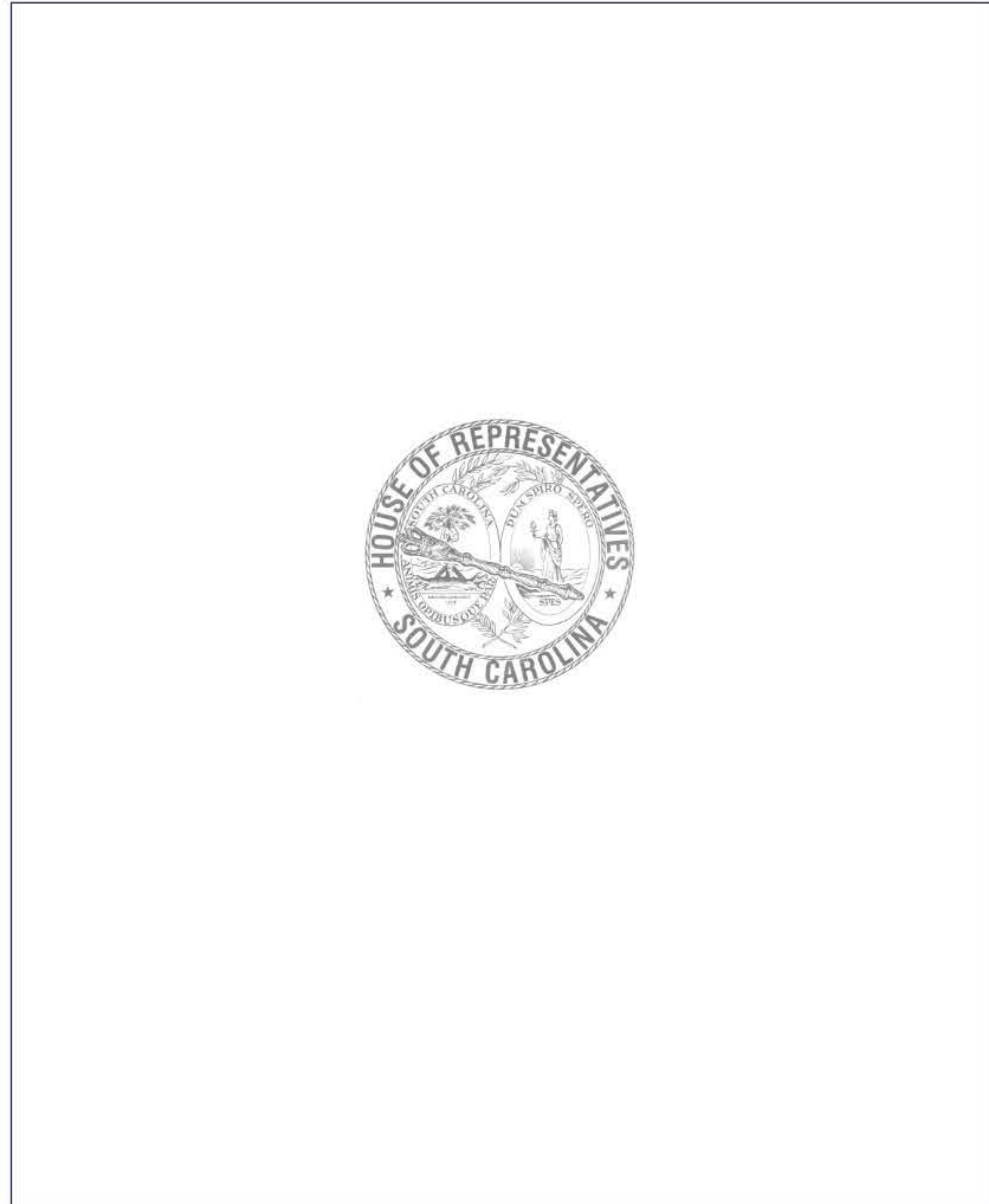
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2022

Ethics Commission



LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE'S  
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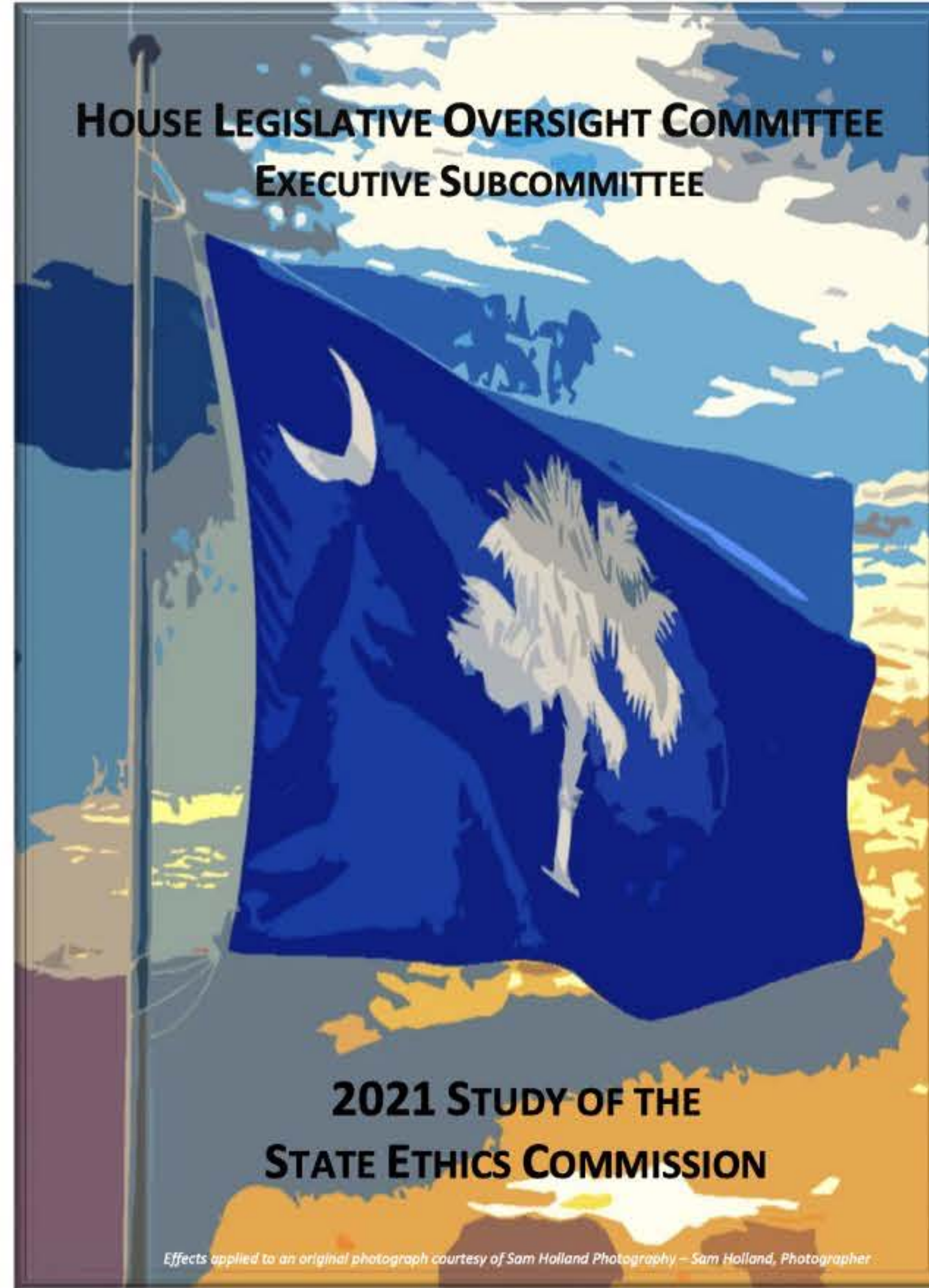


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HOUSE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE



2021 STUDY OF THE  
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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## Recommendations

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- [Effectiveness](#)
- [Efficiency](#)
- [Transparency](#)
- [Interagency Collaboration](#)

S.C. House Legislative Oversight Committee: 2021 Study of the State Ethics Commission

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee has 26 recommendations. These are directed to multiple entities: State Ethics Commission; General Assembly; Office of House Research; State Treasurer's Office; State Election Commission; and Secretary of State's Office.

With any study, the Committee recognizes these recommendations (e.g., continue, curtail, and/or eliminate agency programs, areas for potential improvement, etc.) will not satisfy everyone nor address every issue or potential area of improvement at the agency. These recommendations are based on the agency's self-analysis requested by the Committee, discussions with agency personnel during multiple meetings, and analysis of the information obtained by the Committee. This information, including, but not limited to, the Program Evaluation Report, Accountability Report, Restructuring Report, and videos of meetings with agency personnel, is available on the Committee's website.

#### Recommendations to the State Ethics Commission

The Subcommittee makes two recommendations to the State Ethics Commission related to accountability, and a summary is in Table 7.

Table 7. Summary of accountability recommendations to the agency

ACCOUNTABILITY	REGULATIONS
	1. Complete a review of agency regulations; during the review, consider changes necessitated by relevant judicial opinions. Publish a notice of drafting to begin the formal process of updating the regulations.
	DUTIES
	2. Post online documents commissioners are required to sign, including, but not limited to, those in which they acknowledge their duties as a commissioner.

#### Accountability

**RECOMMENDATION #1.** Complete a review of agency regulations; during the review, consider changes necessitated by relevant judicial opinions. Publish a notice of drafting to begin the formal process of updating the regulations.

Regulations pertaining to the State Ethics Commission are set forth in Chapter 52 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations and have not been amended in at least two decades.<sup>36</sup> Statutory and case law have evolved since then (e.g., candidates no longer must register with the agency as a prerequisite for being on the ballot). Also, state statute requires agencies to conduct a formal review of their regulations every five years.<sup>37</sup> During the study, agency personnel indicate they intend to complete a regulation review and publish a notice of drafting by the end of 2021.<sup>38</sup> Additionally, agency personnel indicate once the 2021 review is complete, they

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Meeting #1  
December 9, 2019  
Full Committee

The full committee selects the agency for study. Discussion begins at 48:10.

S.C. House Legislative Oversight Committee: 2021 Study of the State Ethics Commission

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