

## Here Come the Budget Busters!

*State agencies have begun submitting their budget requests for next year. Ever wonder how government grows so much, so fast? Here's where it starts.*

### ***Major requests for budget hikes***

- The Lt. Governor's Office is asking for \$5 million for the Senior Services Administration. That would double the program from last year.
- The Dept. of Health and Human Services is requesting a 9.6 percent increase from last year. In total, and including the \$69 million in additional spending HHS says it needs as a result of "Obamacare," HHS is asking for \$6.5 billion for FY2014.
- The Commission on Minority Affairs is requesting 39 percent increase in budget.
- USC Columbia requesting \$167 million more than last year – an increase of 17.4 percent.
- Clemson is requesting \$ 116.8 million more than last year – an increase of 14.1 percent.
- Francis Marion University is requesting \$30.2 million more than last year – an increase of 51.5 percent.

### ***Requests for new items and capital projects***

- Lander University is requesting an additional \$36 million for a new "Athenaeum."
- Francis Marion University is requesting an additional \$25 million in new buildings
- The Election Commission is requesting an additional \$5 for a new voting system, and an additional \$1.2 million for statewide primaries.
- Clemson is requesting an additional \$5 million for agriculture research equipment, an additional \$3 million for an Advanced Plant Technology Lab, an additional \$10 million for a Freshmen Engineering and Science Hall, an additional \$25 million for a Business and Behavioral Sciences Building, and \$10 million in additional new recurring items.
- USC Columbia is requesting an additional \$5 million for an undefined program called "On Your Time Graduation," an additional \$15 million Hamilton College, and an additional \$2 million for the School of Medicine Roofing and HVAC.
- The Dept. of Transportation is requesting an additional \$52 million for port access road improvements.
- The Dept. of Revenue requesting an additional \$12.3 million for a new computer upgrade. (The \$4.3 million already allocated for the project hasn't been spent – the reason for a tripling in the amount isn't clear).