

# 'Sky's the limit'

## Clemson set to lease Twelve Mile Beach from Army Corps of Engineers

**BY GREG OLIVER**  
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CLEMSON —  
Clemson City Council has approved an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to lease and maintain the

Twelve Mile Beach Recreation Area.

The proposal includes the initial costs for setup, two full-time employees, one part-time employee and

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**Clemson City Council recently entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the lease and maintenance of the Twelve Mile Beach Recreation Area.**

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includes Oconee and Pickens counties, serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has primary jurisdiction over the issue and has been part of the negotiations over the last two years.

"Our committee's No. 1 priority during negotiations was always to protect patients," Duncan said in a statement to The Journal. "We also wanted to ensure a sense of fairness between plans and providers and create policy that wouldn't lead to increased costs for consumers."

The charges that can run from hundreds to tens of thousands of dollars come from doctors and hospitals that are outside the network of a patient's health insurance plan, according to the Associated Press. It's estimated that about one in five emer-

gency visits and one in six inpatient admissions trigger a surprise bill.

Insurers and service providers would submit their billing disputes to an independent dispute resolution process, which will follow certain guidelines. The main provisions of the legislation would take effect Jan. 1, 2022.

"While the final proposal that was agreed upon wasn't perfect and I wouldn't be surprised if tweaks will need to be made in the future, I believe our top priorities were achieved and am hopeful this agreement will prove to be a positive, consumer-friendly solution," Duncan said. "This is an important step forward, and should there be any further negotiations to fine-tune the policy, I'll look forward to being a part of those conversations as well."

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