

# Senate Education Committee



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May 3, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Governor of South Carolina  
State House  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I am honored to represent the residents in the Pine Glen and Whitehall neighborhoods in Irmo. As you are aware, these two neighborhoods were severely damaged by the flood last October. Residents are requesting assistance to repair homes, rebuild homes, and in some cases assist with mortgages of uninhabitable homes. Many homeowners have discovered they do not qualify for flood relief funds provided to South Carolina by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Most of these HUD funds are designated for low to moderate income individuals. The majority of the residents in Pine Glen and Whitehall do not fit within these categories and are receiving little to no HUD relief funds.

While these residents may not fit into these income classifications, I can assure you they are greatly in need of assistance. I am writing to ask you to request additional flood relief funds from HUD and expand the eligibility criteria to include a broader range of people. These additional HUD funds will provide much needed assistance in this long recovery process.

In closing, I want to thank you for your actions in response to the flood disaster of October 2015. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated leader in the Palmetto State. As time goes by, we must remain attentive to the large numbers of South Carolinians still struggling to deal with the after effects of the storm. Additional flood relief funds will undoubtedly help.

Thank you for considering my request. With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Courson', is written over a horizontal line.

John Courson