

DECEMBER 4, 2015
MR. MARVIN D. BETHEA
1507 HARDY STREET
DILLON, SOUTH CAROLINA
29536

THE HONORABLE NIKKI R. HALEY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
RE: RENOVATION OF THE STATE'S CONFEDERATE
RELIC ROOM AND MILITARY MUSEUM;
CONFEDERATE FLAG BALLOT INITIATIVE

HELLO GOVERNOR HALEY!

HOW ARE YOU? I HOPE MY MESSAGE REACHES YOU WELL...

I UNDERSTAND THAT A PROPOSAL TO DISTRIBUTE \$5 MILLION DOLLARS TO RENOVATE STATE'S CONFEDERATE RELIC ROOM AND MILITARY MUSEUM IS BEING GIVEN INITIAL APPROVAL.

I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH REPRESENTATIVE JOE NEAL THAT
"... \$5 MILLION DOLLARS IS NOT NECESSARY TO DISPLAY THAT
FLAG IN A PLACE OF HONOR." PLUS, THE MEASURE IS NOT A
APPROPRIATELY FISCALLY CONSERVATIVE USE OF TAX RESOURCES.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THERE IS A RUMOR FLOATING AROUND THAT
A PROPOSAL TO PRINT A BALLOT INITIATIVE QUESTION, "SHOULD
THE CONFEDERATE FLAG BE FLOWN ^{ON} THE SOUTH CAROLINA
STATEHOUSE GROUNDS?"

THIS IS NOT A QUESTION (OR DEBATE) ANYONE SHOULD HONOR
CONSIDERING THE INCIDENT AND CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THAT
FLAG THIS PAST SUMMER 2015. GOVERNOR, YOU'VE SAID IT YOURSELF,
"... I HAD NO IDEA HOW MUCH PAIN THIS FLAG HAS CAUSED THE
CITIZENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA."

GOVERNOR HALEY, THE CONFEDERATE FLAG REPRESENTS
SEDITION AND TREASON; A SYMBOL OF A DEEP, DEEP DIVIDE, ...
... AN EXTREMELY DEEP HISTORIC DIVIDE IN OUR NATION'S
ORIGINS, AS WELL AS A REPULSION OF OUR COUNTRY'S
CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS BY WHICH, I AM 100% CERTAIN THAT
CIVIL RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY IS HERE TO STAY.

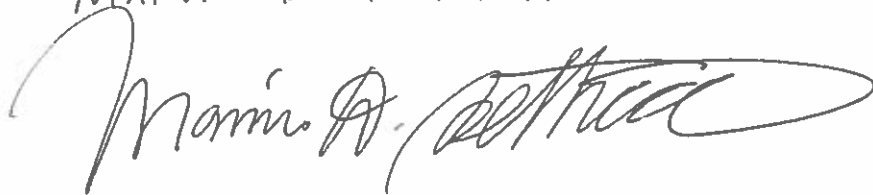
THE CONFEDERATE FLAG MUST (AND SHOULD) REMAIN IN
ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
COMMITTED FOR A NEW FLAG DISPLAY AT THE STATE'S
CONFEDERATE RELIC ROOM AND MILITARY MUSEUM, UNLESS
YOU WISH TO BE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE ^{TO} REIGNITE
ANOTHER AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING TIME FROM YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE IN
READING THIS.

ENJOY YOUR DAY!

BEST REGARDS,

MARVIN D. BETHEA

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marvin D. Bethea". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the end.