

William La Monte

4551 Manitook Drive

Little River, S.C. 29566-7322

(252) 308-3507

4william6@gmail.com

Honorable Governor Haley,

I know you are against gasoline tax increases, but I feel the flooding disasters experienced by South Carolina gives you an 'out' when it comes to increasing gas taxes.

There is no way the state's current or projected budget can cover the repairs needed on the state's highway and bridge systems due to the floods, nor to pre-flood bridge and road repair/build necessary to keep South Carolina infra-structure viable and operational.

With gasoline prices the lowest they have been in quite some time, and South Carolina having the lowest gas prices in the nation. You could easily enact a five-cent or ten-cent a gallon tax on gasoline and allocate all of that revenue to roads and bridges disaster relief and infra-structure upgrade. Your 'OUT' is that you could legislate that when state gasoline prices rise above \$2.10 to \$2.25 a gallon, you would immediately rescind the 'disaster tax' you enacted to make sure all residents and tourists have the safest highway and bridge system possible to transit on.

This new gasoline tax could provide tens-of-millions of dollars in road repair revenue in a very short time.

I seriously doubt that the residents of the state could hold this 'temporary' tax against you, and for those that do, they do not truly understand the needs of the state. I, for one, would/will gladly support such a tax for the reason stated.



William La Monte

P.S. Congratulations on being selected to provide the Republican response to the President's State-Of-The-Union Address!!