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October 3, 2014

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

Although I am not currently a South Carolina state resident, I was for 15 years, the longest I'd ever lived in any location. My father was U.S. Air Force and we moved quite a bit. I was also in the Air Force, and later took a job in Charleston. Since then, I've retired from my civil service job and currently live in North Carolina. My son lives in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

I have been quite disciplined in my saving for retirement, and fortunate that my father left me some money when he passed away. With these, I've purchased a home in Waterloo, SC. It is on Lake Greenwood.

Being retired now, I have to watch my money more closely. This recent purchase of the home in SC will cost me more - in taxes - (taxed at 6%) than my current home in NC. , and is assessed at approximately 1/2 the value.

The reason for the extra tariff, is that it is my second home, not my primary residence. The logic of taxing those who "have the luxury to own a second residence" more, because they obviously can afford it, is faulty. The state is wanting to generate revenue, and sees an opportunity at the plate of the "wealthy". I am just a retiree, fortunate to be able to afford a 50 yr old extra place located on a lake.

Increasing tax on out of state residents or second home (non primary residents) is short sighted. In the short run, yes, the state will generate revenue (right now). In the long run, this is an absolute barrier in drawing people to buy in South Carolina.

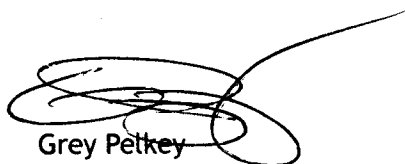
Another reason I chose to live in NC., versus SC., is state income tax. As a federal retiree, vested for 5 years prior to 1989 (The Bailey Act), I am not required to pay state income tax anymore in North Carolina. This is definitely another very big determination as to where I have chosen to reside.

I know you have many responsibilities, but the fiscal welfare of the state is probably high on that list as it has many ramifications.

I ask that you champion a movement, a cause, to encourage revenue generating legislation. The current laws are impeding progress for South Carolina.

Thank you for your time, and your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,



Grey Pelkey