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Subject: Draft Signing Statement - S 191

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First draft of the signing statement for Sen. Verdin's bill. Open for comment/discussion. First sentence is a bit clunky, but the description's lifted pretty much verbatim from the bill itself.

Today, I signed R47, S. 191, a bill that establishes a new program in the Department of Agriculture to foster relationships between South Carolina farms, school districts, and other institutions and to provide them with fresh and minimally processed foods for consumption by students.

The bill permits the Department to seek grants and private funding to support the program. It also bars the promulgation of new regulations associated with this initiative, which will expire if not reauthorized prior to July 1, 2018.

I signed this bill because I support South Carolina's farmers and recognize the importance of presenting students with healthy meal choices. I wish to be clear, however, that I will not support the use of General Fund resources to support this program at any point in the future.

CC: Weathers

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