

Jasper County  
Sun  
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Circ. 1950  
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# 148 Jasper's port gets a kick start

Permit application  
expected to Corps.  
before Thanksgiving

**BY MARY CARR MAYLE**  
Savannah Morning News

Eight years ago this month, Sonny Perdue and Mark Sanford, then-governors of Georgia and South Carolina, respectively, stood along the banks of the Savannah River and announced a joint agreement between the two states to build a deepwater container port on the South Carolina side of the river.

Since then, the project has been stalled, mostly due to political infighting over Georgia's quest to deepen its Savannah harbor.

On Nov. 16, the two states put their differences behind them as the port authorities of Georgia and South Carolina signed a new joint venture agreement that provides the necessary framework for the two states to work toward the development of the Jasper Ocean Terminal.

The new terminal, which will be jointly owned and operated by both port authorities, is expected to provide needed capacity for the two established ports in Savannah and Charleston and help provide a strong Southeast gateway for container shipping.

It's estimated that terminals at the Georgia Ports Authority and the South Carolina

Port Authority will be pushing capacity as early as 2025. The agreement signed will allow the Jasper Joint Project Office, established in 2008 and comprised of representatives of both states, to start the permitting process with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"We hope to submit our permit application to the Corps in Charleston before Thanksgiving and follow that in December with a letter requesting a channel capacity modification study," said Doug Marchand, former GPA executive director and member of the JPO board.

Both current governors voiced their support for the new pact.

"This agreement shows significant progress in our commitment to support economic development in our region," Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal said in a statement. "We must expand port infrastructure in the fast-growing U.S. Southeast to accommodate future demand in manufacturing and retail. Our current investments in logistics infrastructure such as the ports will ensure that our states remain at the forefront of these industries so that we not only grow today, but that we continue to grow for decades to come."

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley agreed.

"Whether we're celebrating another business expansion or record-breaking year for exports, South Carolina's

economy is on the move thanks to a world class ports system that drives our economic development engine," Haley said. "As South Carolina and Georgia renew this commitment to make the Jasper Ocean Terminal a reality, we have an incredible opportunity to strengthen our ports system, and that's a great thing, not only for the people of Jasper County, but for the entire state."

The updated agreement governs the permitting and planning process for the Jasper terminal, including the development of terminal design and supporting infrastructure, plans for financing and execution of the operational decisions required during the permitting process.

A work plan for the 2016 fiscal year, adopted earlier this year by the JPO board, includes geo-technical studies and conceptual work on terminal design by project manager Moffatt & Nichol.

"I am greatly encouraged with the signing of this agreement as the next step of the continuing cooperation and progress between Georgia and South Carolina toward the ultimate goal of building a Jasper Ocean Terminal," said David J. Posek, chairman of the Jasper Ocean Terminal board of directors. "It establishes the framework between our two states to work together over the next decade."

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Chronicle  
Conway, SC  
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PARIS ATTACKS

# Governor opposes resettling refugees

BY MICHAEL SMITH  
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MYHOLLYNEWS.COM

It's not a great day in South Carolina for the tens of thousands of Syrian refugees the Obama Administration is looking to resettle here and other parts of the U.S.

In a state that spends millions annually on tourism marketing, security concerns are driving Gov. Nikki Haley's decision to join more than half the nation's governors in opposing refugee resettlement in their respective states.

As with other governors, Haley fears ISIS terrorists masquerading as Syrian refugees will use resettlement as a means to launch attacks in South Carolina. Those fears were articulated in a letter the governor sent Monday to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.

**HALEY, A3**

## Haley: Governor opposes allowing refugees into S.C.

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"While our national security agencies are working tirelessly to vet potential refugees, there remain gaps in available intelligence for those fleeing Syria," the letter states.

"While I agree that the United States should try to assist individuals in such dire situations, it is precisely because of this situation in Syria that makes their admission into the United States a potential threat to our national security," the letter continues. "For that reason, I ask that you honor my request and not resettle any Syrian refugees in South Carolina."

About 30 governors have said they won't accept Syrian refugees in their states, citing similar security con-

cerns. The pushback comes days after seven ISIS militants launched a series of attacks in Paris, France that killed 129 people and injured 352.

The majority of those killed were executed one by one at a rock music concert, where about 100 people died, according to U.S. and international news reports.

ISIS has openly stated it would embed terrorists among fleeing Syrian refugees, and according to news reports, one of the Paris attackers traveled in that fashion.

"Until I can be assured that all potential refugees from Syria have no ties to terrorist organizations, I am requesting that the State Department not resettle any Syrian refugees in South Carolina," Haley said.



Haley

security concerns are driving Gov. Nikki Haley's decision to join more than half the nation's governors in opposing

refugee resettlement in their respective states.

As with other governors, Haley fears ISIS terrorists masquerading as Syrian refugees will use resettlement as a means to launch attacks in South Carolina. Those fears were articulated in a letter the governor sent Monday to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.



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Walterboro, SC  
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# 148 Port agreement will have future benefits

By GEORGE SALSBERY  
gsalsberry@lowcountry.com

An agreement between the Georgia and South Carolina Port Authorities signed last week is another step on the lengthy path to developing the long-discussed Jasper Ocean Terminal.

Colleton County Economic Development Director Heyward Horton is happy to see the port plans progressing, but does not see it being a factor in the county's bid to attract new businesses any time soon.

"Development like that is a good thing, and would be a good thing for Colleton County," Horton said. "But it is kind of out there in the future."

"It is not something that I am going to start recruiting this afternoon," Horton said. "It won't be a tool in the tool kit for a few years to come."

But, he added, it could be a factor in the long range planning for businesses looking at Colleton County.

"If you do have companies that are wanting to locate and be proximate to both the port of Charleston and Port

of Savannah," he explained, "they can certainly do that today and with the hope to have a third port choice in the future."

The joint agreement signed by the two port authorities provides the necessary framework for the two states to work cooperatively toward

the development of the Jasper Ocean Terminal, which will be jointly owned and operated by both port authorities.

"Whether we're celebrating another business expansion or record-breaking year for exports, South Carolina's economy is on the move thanks to a world class ports system that drives our economic development engine," said South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley.

"As South Carolina and Georgia renew this commitment to make the Jasper Ocean Terminal a reality, we have an incredible opportunity to strengthen our ports system — and that's a great thing, not only for the people

of Jasper County but for the entire state," the governor said.

"This agreement shows

significant progress in our commitment to support economic development in our region," said Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal.

"We must expand port infrastructure in the fast-growing U.S. Southeast to accommodate future demand in manufacturing and retail," Deal explained. "Our current investments in logistics infrastructure, such as the ports, will ensure that our states remain at the forefront of these industries so that we not only grow today but that we continue to grow for decades to come."

The updated agreement governs the permitting and

planning process for the ocean port, including the development of terminal design and supporting infrastructure, plans for financing, and execution of the operational decisions required during the permitting process.

The Jasper Ocean Terminal Joint Project Office was first established under an intergovernmental agreement signed in 2008 by the previous governors of Georgia and South Carolina. This new

agreement takes effect immediately and continues the work.

"I am greatly encouraged with the signing of this agreement as the next step of the continuing cooperation and progress between Georgia and South Carolina toward the ultimate goal of building a Jasper Ocean Terminal," said David J Posek, chairman of the Jasper Ocean Terminal Board of Directors. "It establishes the framework between our two states to work together over the next decade."

A work plan for the 2016 fiscal year was adopted earlier this year by the Jasper Ocean Terminal Board of Directors.

The plan includes geotechnical studies and conceptual work on terminal design by Moffatt & Nichol, the project manager, and the year is expected to culminate with a permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the new terminal and channel modification study.

# 148 + 202 Senator Elliott was role model in SC politics

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Deceased S.C. Sen. Dick Elliott of North Myrtle Beach devoted 30 years of his life to the political arena. Recently passing in 2014, he was a Democratic member of the South Carolina Senate, representing the 28th District since 1992. Prior to that, he was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1982 through 1992.

He was also committed to North Myrtle Beach, where he resided since 1956. He served on the Horry County Council and the North Myrtle Beach City Council.

According to his biography, he started Elliott Beach Rentals in 1959, knowing that people moving here were interested in job diversification and a high quality of life. He became knowledgeable in job creation practices and was dedicated to strong education systems.

His leadership practices were exemplified by his work ethic. He had a 100 percent attendance record during his time in the House of Representatives. Elliott believed in efficient government and open communication.

Elliott was recognized at McLeod Seacoast with a ceremony unveiling his bronze sculpture to commemorate his years of service and dedication in bringing quality healthcare to citizens of the North Strand area.

"Senator Elliott was instrumental in providing support to the Loris Healthcare System Board of Commissioners to build Seacoast Medical Center," said Ronald Fowler, trustee of the McLeod Health Board. "His leadership was also vital in the most recent expansion of the emergency department and intensive care unit in Loris as well. Seacoast was built upon Senator Elliott's philosophy of communities working together for the common good."

The sculpture was created by Maria J. Kirby-Smith, a sculptor who resides and works in Camden, the same town Elliott called home until 1959. The sculpture cabinet, made of sapele and rosewood, was created by Chuck Black, owner and operator of The Woodshop in Darlington.

Gov. Nikki Haley awarded South Carolina's highest civilian honor to Senator Elliott. Haley presented the Order of the Palmetto to Elliott on the Senate floor, the last day of the regular session.

Elliott represented parts of coastal Horry County and the Pee Dee in the legislature for three decades. Haley thanked Elliott for making a positive difference on those around him. The award was for a lifetime of exceptional dedicated service to the state.

Today, Elliott Beach Rentals

employs hundreds of individuals, continuing his legacy of creating job diversification and a high quality of life.

Senator Elliott was born in Camden, attended Wingate Junior College (now Wingate University), attended Clemson University, has two sons and one daughter; his interests were agriculture/natural resources; fish, game and forestry; golf; and transportation.

"As you look back on Sen. Dick Elliott's life... you'll see a young boy eager to learn. You'll see a young man eager to work hard and take chances. You'll see a dedicated husband and father, and you'll see a public servant driven to making South Carolina a better place."



**Senator Dick Elliott**



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Senator Dick Elliott and his family.



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CCU's forum on Paris attacks intended to educate, not indoctrinate

BY MICHAEL SMITH  
MICHAEL.SMITH@MYHorryNEWS.COM

A packed house turned out recently for a Coastal Carolina University sponsored panel discussion about the Islamic State's terrorist attack in Paris.

About 150 people filled Johnson Auditorium in the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration for the two-hour discussion in what was largely a civil event.

Some conservatives, however, are expressing concerns that the panel provided liberal perspectives only.

"Ethics and Current Events: Understanding the Paris Attacks" was the subject of the panel discussion that featured five CCU instructors.

Panelists discussed the Islamic State and its relationship to the Islamic world, the future of ISIS, its capabilities and ethical questions regarding military and terrorist tactics, according to a university news release.

The panel also discussed "French colonialism and the treatment of Muslims in France," the release said.

Robert Rabon, chairman of the Horry County Republican Party, took issue with linking French colonialism with terrorism. He saw that as an example of indoctrination.

"If conservatives had a forum, they'd be marching around the building. They'd be going crazy," he said.

One woman addressing the panel at Thursday's event noted the predominantly Muslim Ottoman Turks also had a violent history, conquering the Middle East and ruling it "ruthlessly" for centuries.

"You all seem to be in agreement, although each with your own different area of expertise," the woman said. "I don't think that's very good for panel discussion. I think you need to have someone who has a different opinion. You need the point, counterpoint."

The intent of Thursday's forum was not to indoctrinate, but rather to foster discussion about the Nov. 13 attacks in

Paris, and also to explain why they happened, said Juliana Oxley, chair of CCU's department of philosophy and religious studies, who organized and moderated the event.

"We are not by any means anti-military. I noticed there were several folks in fatigues who were there," she said. "We're not trying to say we ought not bomb. The intent of the panel was to think about why [the attacks] happened. The goal was to get the conversation started and not do a foreign policy analysis."

Oxley said the event was organized on short notice after the Paris attacks.

She said she was grateful to the participants who volunteered, noting they were tasked with discussing the Islamic State through historical, theological and ethical contexts.

"I didn't have any ideological agenda," Oxley added. "I wanted people to understand why it happened, not what we ought to do."

The Islamic State, commonly referred to as ISIS, has claimed responsibility for the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris that killed 129 and wounded 352.

According to news reports, at least one of the attackers entered France posing as a Syrian refugee. The Islamic State has openly stated that's how the group plans to conduct future attacks.

Gov. Nikki Haley and at least 30 other governors have expressed opposition to allowing Syrian refugees to resettle in their states.

A bill that would further restrict Syrian resettlement recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### What panelists said

On Thursday, some panelists criticized efforts restricting the resettlement of Syrian refugees in the U.S., while others cited examples of Western racism directed at Muslims.

Some others questioned the wisdom of using military force to combat the Islamic State, including one panelist who sup-

ported putting terrorists on trial, with neutral nations taking the lead.

"One of the implications of this might be that we need to establish some sort of world government or world state to bring terrorists to justice and put them on trial," said Emily Crookston, lecturer of philosophy at CCU.

"I don't think I have to say states that have been attacked have to be totally uninvolved in what happens to terrorists, but they shouldn't be the primary punishing body," she

said.

Philip Whelan, a history professor specializing in French history, said terrorists targeted Paris because it's "very emblematic" of Western values, particularly secular values the Islamic State finds offensive.

"Secular values can be provocative to those who

would prefer to advance different interests, different agendas," he said. "There is a cultural clash of sorts."

Whelan said France is unique because its constitution insists on secularism. As an example of that secularism in practice, he cited Algeria, which France annexed in the

19th Century.

"Muslims had to choose between being a French citizen or remaining Muslim. You couldn't be both, you had to be one or the other," he said. "There is a background of frustration, oppression and indeed racism in France."

Whelan noted that the logic

isn't sound, "but we know how that's being pitched" by the Islamic State.

Some professors expressed views questioning how nations respond to terrorism in general, and the Paris attacks in particular. There was also criticism of rhetoric from the campaign trail.





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## <sup>148</sup> Haley's Thanksgiving request: Help our state's flood victims

**T**hanksgiving is a very special time for our family when Michael, Rena, Nalin, and I reflect on the blessings in our lives, blessings we may take for granted during the year.

But this Thanksgiving, many of our neighbors, who were touched by devastating flooding, are still hurting.

We want to make sure, especially during the holidays, that they know we have them in our thoughts and prayers – and that they can count on the South Carolina family.

In the spirit of the holiday season, we are proud to join Stephen Colbert, Darius Rucker, Coach Dabo Swinney, Coach Dawn Staley, Carolina Panthers founder and owner Jerry Richardson, Houston Texans chairman Bob McNair, professional golfer Jay Haas, and other in helping our

neighbors re-build through the One SC Fund.

One hundred percent of the donations to the One SC Fund go directly to assisting South Carolinians continue the re-building process.

We hope you will donate whatever you can to the One SC Fund to help those who are re-building.

Visit [www.onescfund.org](http://www.onescfund.org) to make an online donation. Text 'onesc' to (843) 606-5601. Or mail a check made payable to Central Carolina Community Foundation - One SC Fund to Central Carolina Community Foundation, 2711 Middleburg Drive, Suite 213, Columbia, SC 29204.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.

**God bless,  
Nikki Haley**



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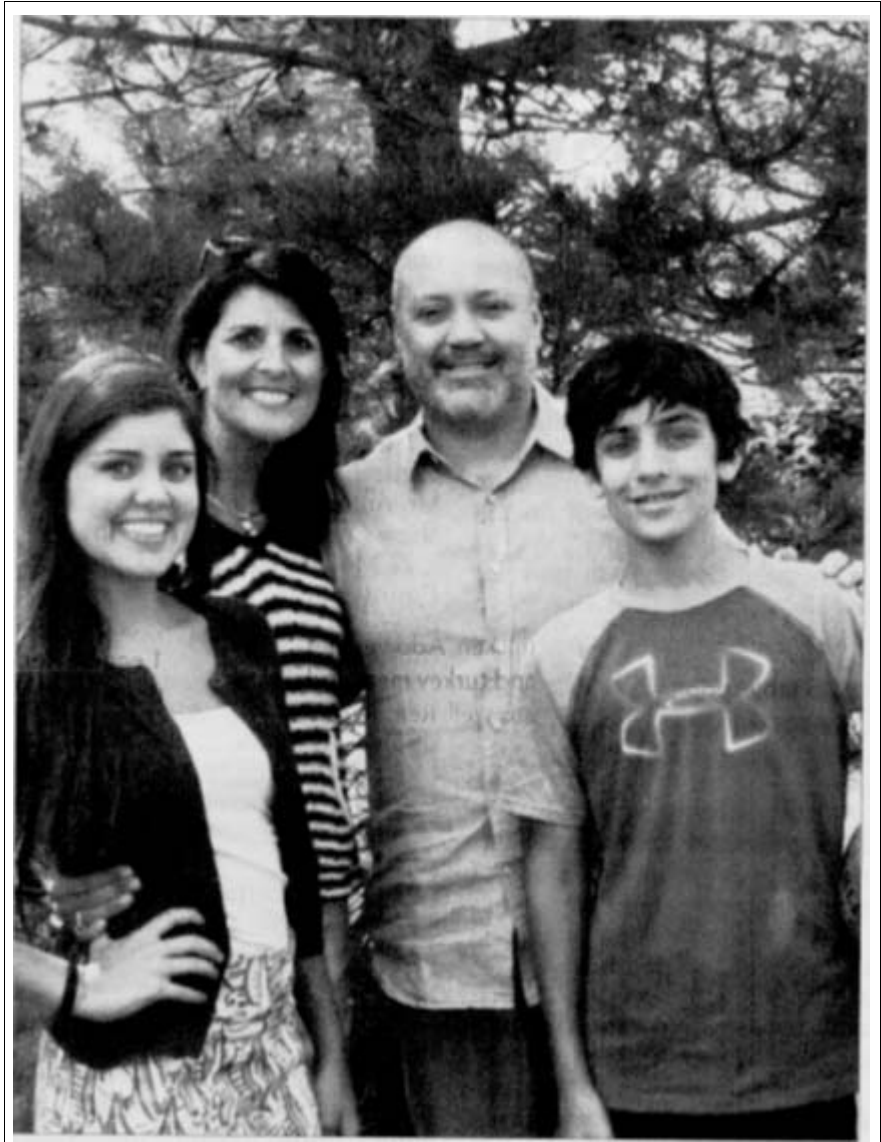


PHOTO SUPPLIED

Governor Nikki Haley, with husband Michael, daughter Rena, left, and son Nalin, right.





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## 148 Interim super: 'There's hope' for public education in South Carolina

**BY BRIAN GARNER**  
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Chester County Interim Superintendent Dr. Keith Callicutt came back from a meeting with Gov. Nikki Haley convinced "there's hope" for the education outlook in South Carolina.

Callicutt joined other superintendents across the state that met with the governor recently in the Superintendent's Roundtable. He provided an overview of that meeting at the November school board meeting.

He said there has been

more of a dialogue with the governor over the past few years than in previous years.

Gov. Haley told the superintendents "teachers

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## HOPE

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are tired and frustrated” and Callicutt said this was meaningful to him in that it was the governor, who had spoken with a lot of teachers, who was saying this. Haley pointed out statistically the pool of teachers nationwide is decreasing every year, but the need for teachers increases every year. Callicutt said the governor is realizing there are a number of challenges associated with being an educator, such as salary, working conditions, climate within the workplace.

Gov. Haley seems to be determined to assist public education, Callicutt believes. He said the year before last she helped with the funding of education, especially in the higher-poverty districts.

Over the 44 years he's been in education, Callicutt said, he's seen promises made and promises not kept, but “this seems to be a time when maybe there truly is hope in our state for some significant improvement in public education, and for support for public education.”

Gov. Haley told the superintendents the state expects a significant surplus in the state budget for 2015-2017, up to \$1.5 billion in additional money.

“That comes right after we've had historic flooding and tragedy and devastation throughout our state, and the associated costs of that event... We know we have needs in roads and bridges across the state. And that's the backdrop, but Gov. Haley is still very hopeful, and I took hope away from the conversation we had with her,” Callicutt said.

He pointed out Haley and State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman are working closer than the State Superintendent and Governor have for a long time; decades possibly. Callicutt said Spearman is planning to ask that a minimum of \$150 be added to the base student cost. In Chester County School District that base student cost is about \$2,220.

“That \$150 would bring the cost to \$2,370; it need to be about \$2,800 based on what the state tells it costs to educate a child in our state. But still, it's an improvement, and we need to be thankful in these economic times that there's any improvement at all,” Callicutt said.

He added the governor promised all the infrastructure needs in the state would not take away some increase for public education.

“She's committed to see public education get an increase,” said Callicutt.

### Too much testing

The governor also told the superintendents she was convinced another reason the teachers were tired and frustrated was “there's too much standardized testing. She feels that much of what's required of teachers needs to change – notice I'm careful not to say do away with all of the testing, but it needs to change significantly, the governor believes,” Callicutt said.

A committee of superintendents is working on a proposal to be given to the S.C. Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee that would:

- consolidate the state and federal report cards to one report card

- reduce the number of standardized tests for students

- restructure the evaluation process for teachers, administrators and staff (including changing what is used as a measure of student progress or growth)

“With all that being said, there's hope,” Callicutt concluded. He said what he sees is cooperation between the S.C. Department of Education, the Education Oversight Committee and the Governor's Office like he has not seen before.





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Williamston, SC  
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## STATE HOUSE REPORT FROM REP. ANNE J. THAYER House District 9

Dear Friends,

As Americans we are sympathetic to the needs of the less fortunate and repeatedly show that with our humanitarian aid, personal generosity and labors of love. We are a mostly Christian and compassionate nation. Congressman Jeff Duncan stated it best when he said, "Compassion cuts two ways. We should be cognizant of the compassion we should show our fellow citizens here in America. That compassion is exemplified by using common-sense in addressing the national security concerns our nation faces. Our compassion should be, too, to make sure, to the best of our abilities that no harm comes to our fellow countrymen.



We should do everything to make sure that elements of evil are not introduced, due to our compassionate hearts, into the neighborhoods, town, cities and states of our great Nation." I agree with him completely.

The horrific attacks on Paris leave little doubt that Islamic terrorists are spreading their fight from the Middle East battlefields and taking it worldwide. Most experts agree that unless circumstances change dramatically, it is only a matter of time before the United States sees a repeat of the Paris mayhem.

Make no mistake about it, this is a World War. The terrorists' strategy is to bring death and destruction to unsuspecting civilians. In their minds, we are the enemy and they are hell-bent on killing us.

I refuse to be "politically correct" about this issue. I was elected to serve you and to serve this state. One of the most important functions of government is to protect the public. We need to be even more vigilant about protecting our state and its citizens in these dangerous times. We do not want potential terrorists in our midst, particularly by our own foolish invitation. Therefore, several of us wrote Gov. Haley asking her to stop the Refugee Resettlement Program. At first she refused, but thanks to the involvement of many of you, she changed her mind.

There are many ways we can assist these refugees without bringing them to America at this time. We could easily create "safe zones" in other countries. It would cost less than bringing them here and we could actually assist more refugees. We could send money, supplies and missionaries. As it stands now, we cannot even evangelize under the UN refugee program as this is considered coercion.

For now, I think it is best to proceed with caution. As always, I appreciate the opportunity of serving you.

Rep. Anne Thayer

/



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Gaffney, SC  
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**Sen. Peeler should run for governor**

**Dear Editor:**

Thank God for State Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler (R. Cherokee). On Nov. 16, Senator Peeler hand-delivered a letter to Governor Nikki Haley exposing her duplicity regarding Obama's refugee program. "You are on record supporting this refugee program," Peeler wrote. "I implore you to cancel the agreement you and the Department of Social Services have made with third-party groups to provide shelter to potential terrorists."

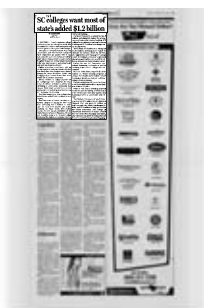
In her predictably hypocritical fashion, Nikki Haley has since written Obama, petitioning him to slow approval of "Syrian," and not international, refugees.

Everyone knows that ISIS supporters come from many Muslim countries, not just Syria.

More familiar with the nature of the crisis and more proactive solutions, Senator Peeler should run for governor.

*Sincerely,*  
**Richard T. Hines**  
**Mayesville, SC**

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Florence, SC  
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# 148 SC colleges want most of state's added \$1.2 billion

BY CASSIE COPE  
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COLUMBIA — South Carolina's colleges and universities are asking for nearly all of the added \$1.2 billion that lawmakers will have to spend in next year's state budget.

The state's 17 research schools, four-year universities and their branch campuses have requested an added \$587.6 million, and the state's 16 technical colleges want \$463.2 million more in state money. Roughly 90 percent of that added money is for one-time projects, including buildings and teaching equipment.

Higher-education institutions still are trying to get restored state money that they lost when their state budgets were slashed during the Great Recession. Today, that funding is \$245 million lower than it was before the economic downturn.

The \$1.1 billion in college requests will be competing with requests for hundreds of millions of dollars in added state spending in other areas, including road repairs, flood relief, income-tax cuts and increased K-12 spending in response to an S.C. Supreme Court ruling.

The three largest four-year colleges have asked for an added \$240.5 million in state money.

The University of South Carolina's Columbia campus is asking for \$46.3 million, including \$21.5 million to renovate its soon-to-be-former law school building on Main Street, \$5.8 million to pay 30 new faculty members at the Darla Moore School of Business, \$5 million to add a wing to its Honors College dorm and \$4 million to renovate the War

Memorial building.

Clemson University is asking for \$64.4 million, including \$25 million for a business and behavioral science building, \$25 million for an advanced material sciences building and \$1.5 million for a design center in Charleston.

The College of Charleston is asking for \$129.8 million, including \$53.5 million to renovate the Simons Center for the Arts, \$35 million for a new learning technology center, \$23 million to renovate its physical education and health center, and \$9.8 million to renovate the Stern Student Center.

Earlier this year, S.C. lawmakers considered borrowing, via bonds, to pay for building projects at S.C. colleges and universities.

But Gov. Nikki Haley helped kill a \$500 million S.C. House bonding proposal. A similar, but smaller, \$236 million Senate bonding proposal was delayed until lawmakers return in January.

If a borrowing proposal passes next year, it will be the first approved for capital projects in about 15 years.

When it was clear a bonding proposal would not pass last spring, lawmakers put some of the state's one-time surplus into building projects at universities and colleges.

The Medical University of South Carolina received \$25 million for its Children's Hospital. USC was given \$5 million to help renovate the South Caroliniana Library and \$3.5 million to help pay for the law-school renovation. The College of Charleston received \$1.8 million toward the cost of the Stern building renovation, and Clemson was given \$5 million for the business and behavioral science building.