

**From:** Pitts, Ted <TedPitts@gov.sc.gov>  
**To:** Baker, Josh <JoshBaker@gov.sc.gov>  
Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>  
**CC:** bill@bbethea.com <bill@bbethea.com>  
**Date:** 5/28/2014 1:47:59 PM  
**Subject:** FW: S.825, as amended, passed 3rd reading and headed back to Senate

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Lets discuss.

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**From:** William L Bethea Jr. [mailto:bill@bbethea.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 12:01 PM  
**To:** Pitts, Ted  
**Subject:** S.825, as amended, passed 3rd reading and headed back to Senate

Ted, S.825, as substantially and very helpfully amended, passed 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and is headed back to the Senate today. Obviously, next week is critical to get Senate concurrence. There appears to be one potential stumbling block. Senators Thurmond and Malloy want to amend it further to add to the Veterans Treatment Court a provision also adding the Drug Court. The concern is that such an addition would likely sink the bill. If that happens the Military Friendly effort would go from a Home Run to a strike out---a HUGE missed opportunity. Is there any way you or the Governor could speak to either or both of the Senators to ask them not to persist in trying to force that amendment onto this otherwise very helpful military friendly bill? Obviously it is do or die next week!!!! S.825, as it is currently amended will, if passed in its current form, be a huge victory for the Governor, the Task Force and , most importantly, the military members and their families in the state---and will greatly enhance our standing in the eyes of the DOD.

Thanks for your help.  
bill

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