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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Speaker Lucas Responds to Governor Haley's Education Proposal

Looks forward to working together to advance reform

(Columbia, SC) – House Speaker Jay Lucas (District 65-Darlington) issued the following statement in response to Governor Nikki Haley and Superintendent Molly Spearman's education press conference in Gaston, SC.

"Education reform is a long overdue, critical conversation that must take place to protect our state's economic and societal prosperity," Speaker Jay Lucas stated. **"Governor Haley has embraced this issue and we are encouraged by her advocacy for reforms intended to give our children access to the education they deserve."**

"Superintendent Molly Spearman, Chairwoman Rita Allison and the members of our House Education Taskforce worked tirelessly for ten months on a proposal that seeks to fundamentally transform our public education system. Our plan offers assistance to struggling school districts and prioritizes 21st century learning so that every child in every part of our state is given the opportunity to succeed. I look forward to joining Governor Haley in her efforts so that together we can make education reform a reality in South Carolina."

The House Education Policy and Review Task force is a seventeen-member panel chaired by

Representative Rita Allison (District 36-Spartanburg) and included delegates from the rural school districts in the Abbeville Supreme Court decision. The group was appointed by House Speaker Jay Lucas last January and successfully drafted a comprehensive report after studying the issue for ten months. The panel addressed family engagement, curriculum advancement, teacher and administrative retention, and infrastructure needs. To view the report, click [here](#).

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