

From: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>
To: Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 4/11/2016 3:59:51 PM
Subject: FW: Question from Mother Jones on SB 997

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From: Saraswati Rathod [mailto:srathod@motherjones.com]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 3:18 PM
To: Godfrey, Rob
Subject: Question from Mother Jones on SB 997

Hello Mr. Godfrey,

My name is Sara Rathod. I'm a journalist with Mother Jones magazine in San Francisco. I'm working on a story about a new religious liberties claim that has emerged in South Carolina in reaction to SB 997. The bill which would create a registry of newly-resettled refugees and hold resettlement groups liable if any of the refugees they worked with go on to commit a violent crime. Christian groups that work with refugees are now claiming that the bill violates their religious rights because it prevents them from caring for the stranger and the needy, as the Bible directs them. I'm curious to get Governor Haley's reaction to this claim. I've listed a few questions below that I was hoping you might be able to forward her:

1. Does Gov. Haley believe these groups' religious liberties claims have merit?
2. If so, does SB 997 give her pause at all? If not, can she explain why?
3. Would she ever consider vetoing SB 997? Or is it a bill she would likely support?
4. I'm also curious how Gov. Haley's faith has informed her position on refugee resettlement, and how she feels about leading figures in the United Methodist church [urging politicians](#) to welcome Syrian refugees.

My deadline is noon EST on Wednesday. If you could confirm the receipt of this email and let me know if Gov. Haley will be able to get back to me, that would be wonderful.

Thanks in advance and look forward to hearing from you.

Best,
Sara