

From: Veldran, Katherine

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Date: 6/13/2012 4:19:40 PM

Subject: Fw: Human Trafficking & H. 3127

Attachments: SCCVC Hudson letter to Governor Halley.docx

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From: Laura Hudson [mailto:sccvc@sccvc.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 04:10 PM

To: Veldran, Katherine

Subject: Human Trafficking & H. 3127

As I briefly discussed with you last Thursday, two issues:

One pleasant subject; the passage of the Human Trafficking Bill, House 3757. (Rat #0292) General Bill, By I Brady, Butler Garrick, Funderburk, Munnerlyn, Knight, Dillard, Cobb-Hunter, Parks, Huggins, Allison, Tallon, Brannon, Atwater, Whipper, Patrick and J.R. Smith

Rep Hardwick introduced the Bill last year, House Criminal Law subcommittee Chairman Bannister adjourned debate and tasked me with rewriting the Bill to bring it into SC language. I asked Tammy Beshorse of Appleseed, who is an attorney of great skill to write the revisions after meeting with a whole host of folks from the victim communities, Ags office, solicitors, etc. The result was a rewritten 3757. The criminal law subcommittee stripped the forfeiture section out (led by Todd Rutherford) much to the dismay of victim advocates, but at the suggestion of the Ags office, the offense was added to the State Grand Jury. Fortunately S. 1135, introduced by Senators Hutto, L. Martin, Rose, Cromer, Cleary, Davis, & Alexander contained the forfeiture and when H. 3757 came over, the Senate added the forfeiture section back in, House refused to concur. Conference committee was appointed. Senate side won. Lots of individual victims, advocates and organizations contributed to the success of the bill's passage: SCCVC, SCVAN, League of Women Voters, Zonta Club, SCCADVASA, Rape Crisis Centers, Palmetto Council, Baptist Convention, other faith groups, etc.

We would love to have a media event with the Governor to celebrate the bill's passage and signing (ceremonial or actual) at the Governor's convenience, taking care to invite all of the heroes. A victim would be able to speak to bring the effect of the Bill into perspective. Attorney General Wilson, Solicitor Duffy Stone & Advocate Betty Houbion were instrumental in the successful passage.

Next subject less pleasant if not downright horrible. SC Crime Victims' Council respectfully asked the Governor to VETO H.3127. I have included some of the rationale for our request.