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Governor Nikki R. Haley

Subject: Greenville Health System transfer of ownership: Is it legal?

Greenville Health System (GHS) consists of seven hospitals (3 rural hospitals and over 10% of all South Carolina hospitals) a medical school, and several other healthcare facilities, valued at over \$2 Billion, and it had always existed as a Public-Non-profit system serving the citizens in four counties, and presumed regulated by state authority.

GHS President/CEO and 2016 Board of Trustees (including six hold-over members) recently *assumed authority* sufficient to allow them to transfer ownership of that vital healthcare system to a Private-Non-profit. Citizens of the Upstate have been left with many questions, some asked, and many others yet unasked, and therefore unanswered, regarding this highly questionable assumption of authority by a small group of unelected individuals, and why those presumed to be in authority over the State's healthcare system have remained silent.

GHS new form of system governance will consist of three (3) Boards of Directors; Strategic Coordinating Organization Board of Directors (15 members), Upstate Affiliate Organization Board of Directors (12 members), and assumed retention of the current GHS Board of Trustees. Members of the new Boards have been selected and consist of 10 members of the current Board of Trustees, and 17 newly appointed Board members. [Research regarding health systems governance by the undersigned can find no evidence of a multi-board form of health system governance thereby raising the question; is this proposed form of governance unique, or are there existing health systems that have an established track record of such a form of multi-board governance? That question has not been asked and answered. Furthermore, most of the newly appointed Board members of both new boards have little, if any, prior experience regarding health systems.]

Citizens of the Upstate deserve to have far more specific information regarding this major transfer of health system ownership and governance, and can only look to those elected to the highest offices for determination of the primary question, is it legal?

A similar letter is being sent to Attorney General Alan Wilson.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ira Williams