

From: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>  
To: Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>  
Date: 4/10/2014 11:27:49 AM  
Subject: RE: Comments on RTS Passage

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This is great.  
Thank you,  
KV

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From: Soura, Christian  
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 10:30 AM  
To: Veldran, Katherine  
Subject: Comments on RTS Passage

Obviously, Read to Succeed is Sen. Peeler's issue and his continued focus on it is the reason why that bill's finally going over to the House. When we met with him and with Martha in that last week or two before we rolled out the budget, I talked about how I saw our reading coach proposal as going hand-in-hand with Read to Succeed. Many on the Senate floor clearly had the same view – to the point that several senators seemed to be a little confused as to what the true costs were of each piece and where the line was between RTS and the coaches proposal.

So the main points in my mind are that:

- Read to Succeed was trapped on the Senate calendar for 11 months (reported from Education 5/9/13, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading 4/9/14), but was passed yesterday because Sen. Peeler refused to give up.
- One of the reasons that Read to Succeed didn't pass last year was because it wasn't clear how it would operate, since there wasn't money directly connected to it at the time.
- The Governor's \$29.5 million reading coach initiative was the catalyst that finally got things clicking this year. It brought life to the Read to Succeed proposal by providing dedicated funding that showed the Senate how that program can and should work.

Anyway, that's how I've been looking at this. If you want me to try to translate this into an actual quote, I'm glad to give that a shot, although I don't know how effective I'll be in capturing his voice. Thanks.

CLS

Christian L. Soura  
Deputy Chief of Staff

(803) 543-0792  
[ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov](mailto:ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov)