

Title: **Yes, SC gas prices are rising; no, don't panic at the pump**
 Author: BY RODDIE BURRIS rburris@thestate.com
 Size: 72.07 column inches
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



PIPELINE PROBLEMS IN ALABAMA

Yes, SC gas prices are rising; no, don't panic at the pump

■ Like customers throughout the Southeast, South Carolinians have seen escalating gas prices for several days since a pipeline leak in Alabama, but state officials say they are taking steps to mitigate outages.

BY RODDIE BURRIS
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Gas prices in South Carolina continued to rise Monday because of a leak in a major pipeline artery near Montgomery, Ala., but state officials took additional steps to increase the supply of gas entering the Palmetto State.

Gas prices in South Carolina averaged \$2.04 on

Monday, an increase of 13 cents from last week, according to AAA Carolinas.

South Carolina is one of five states most impacted by the leak in a Colonial Pipeline artery near Montgomery, where company officials said

between 250,000 and 336,000 gallons of gasoline have spilled since Sept. 9. Shortages have also been reported in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina.

Stations in some areas of South Carolina have had to

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GAS PRICES

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place bags over fuel nozzles and put up tape to close off pumps, particularly in the Upstate around Rock Hill and in the North Augusta area.

Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order Monday suspending federal regulations to raise the size and weight of trucks delivering fuel into the state in an effort to increase the amount of fuel with each delivery. Last week, Haley issued an order extending the number of hours delivery drivers could be on the roads.

Colonial Pipeline has two terminals in the Upstate and one in North Augusta that are served by the pipeline shut down in Alabama, according to Bonnie Loomis, executive director of the South Carolina Petroleum Council.

“Colonial is working to bring fuel in on tanker trucks from other parts of the country to . . . maintain supply at the retail level,” Loomis said Monday.

Most nationally-branded gas stations receive fuel under long-term service contracts, Loomis said. In major supply disruptions, those stations get preference over deliveries to smaller, “mom-and-pop” stations that are not part of a chain, Loomis said.

The council, a division of the American Petroleum Institute, is aware of spotty shortages around the state, but they are typically limited to a few hours, Loomis said, and usually impact just those “mom-and-pop” locations.

Loomis said if drivers “maintain their routine

purchase patterns, and we don't see stockpiling or people continuously topping off their tanks,” then the contingency plans in place to supply fuel to the state should be adequate until normal operations are restored to Colonial's lines.

Several aspects of the state's fuel regulations are wrapped up in transportation codes, so several governmental and industrial agencies conferred about the issue Monday to ensure expedited fuel delivery, according to Chaney Adams, Haley's press secretary.

“Consumers can and should purchase fuel as they would normally – and as engineers work to repair pipeline issues, we will continue to monitor developments in the region,” Adams said.

When the spill is repaired, which Colonial Pipeline has estimated could take a week or more, gas prices should drop again because suppliers have already moved to their winter blend of gasoline, which costs less, and because driving is down now with the summer travel season over, experts said.

At the Sunoco Food Mart on Bush River Road at the intersection of Interstate 20 and Interstate 26, clerks Ila Patel and Kush Patel said their reserve tanks were low, likely around 2,000 gallons at midday Monday, and they were unsure when new deliveries would arrive.

“If you don't have gas, nobody (will) come in to buy other items,” Kush Patel said.



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Some customers at the station expressed reservations about the recent price increases, and said they understand they are at the mercy of a supply chain they don't control. "We drive and are out of town a lot, so we need a lot of gas," said Rudi Stolla, owner of Starhanger High-Rise Building Services, which performs window washing, caulking and other glass services.

"Crude oil prices are

still reasonable, so (gas) prices shouldn't be going up (so fast)," Stolla said.

Gas price increases in South Carolina since the spill have been "spotty," according to AAA Carolinas. "You see some stations that have gone up from 5 to 10 cents overnight, but then you might go five blocks away and it's only gone up 3 or 4 cents," said Tiffany Wright, AAA Carolinas spokeswoman in Charlotte.

Gas prices often are based on fear and nervousness, she said. "We have a ton of supply here in the United States, so all we really should be seeing is a reshuffling, if you will, behind the scenes of distribution. The problem is, there are those motorists who are changing their behavior.

"It's the old milk and bread thing that occurs whenever there's a snowstorm. The demand outweighs the supply. Un-

fortunately, motorists getting nervous and panicking is actually what's exacerbating the problem."

The lowest reported gas prices in the Columbia area Monday afternoon varied from \$1.88 at the Gasway on Rosewood Drive at S. Edisto Ave. to \$1.99 at the BP on Blossom Street at Huger Street, according to GasBuddy.com.

GAS PRICE INCREASES IN S.C. SINCE THE SPILL HAVE BEEN "SPOTTY," ACCORDING TO AAA CAROLINAS.



MORE INSIDE

How far can you drive after the fuel light comes on? **6B**

Title: **Haley asks S.C. agencies why they don't use all their money**
 Author: COLUMBIA
 Size: 8.21 column inches
 Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



Haley asks S.C. agencies why they don't use all their money

COLUMBIA

Gov. Nikki Haley has told all state agencies to begin giving an explanation if they have money left in their budgets at the end of the year.

Haley issued an executive order with the requirement on Monday.

The Legislature when passing this year's budget asked agencies to provide a report of all fines and fees they collect as part of their budget and how that money is spent. The money is called the "other funds" budget.

Haley says her order builds on that requirement and on her request last month that agencies report on programs that would reduce or eliminate if their budgets were cut by 3 percent.

The governor says she wants to help agencies with long-term planning the next time the economy slows.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

Title: **Haley asks agencies to explain surpluses**
 Author: ASSOCIATED PRESS
 Size: 9.45 column inches
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Haley asks agencies to explain surpluses

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Title: **Shortage drives up pump prices**
 Author: BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND ccleveland@aikenstandard.com
 Size: 89.43 column inches
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Shortage drives up pump prices

Gasoline above \$2 a gallon at some Aiken County locations

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND

ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

Motorists in the Aiken area were still heading to the pumps on Monday after gas stations in multiple southeastern states, including the Carolinas and Georgia, reported being low on fuel and the concern for rising prices continued due to a pipeline break in Alabama.

Colonial Pipeline has acknowledged that between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from the pipeline in Alabama. The Associ-

ated Press reported. The spill was discovered Sept. 9., but it is not clear when it started.

The company said in a statement issued early Monday supplies of gas "have either been delivered or are on their way to terminal locations in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina," AP reported.

The statement said after shipments arrive at several mainline terminal locations, "Colonial will deliver fuel directly

to local terminal customers or re-originate the fuel down lateral or stublines to additional terminals in several other markets. ... Fuel terminal operators will then determine distribution patterns for each respective market, where gasoline will be off-loaded into tanker trucks for delivery to retail stations."

One listed is in North Augusta.

AAA Carolinas also said in a news

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release on Monday, pipeline operators were currently "working to repair the pipeline and expect to re-start the movement of gasoline, diesel and jet fuel from Texas and Louisiana refineries to a number of Gulf Coast and southeastern states sometime this week."

AAA's statement said the pipeline disruption "could contribute to the availability of supply and the Carolinas may see higher prices until normal shipments resume."

The average price in South Carolina was \$2.04, an increase from last week's average of \$1.91, the motor club said Monday.

"Despite the recent increases, both of the Carolinas are still seeing gas prices under the national average of \$2.20," the release reads.

Aiken resident Maryanne Johnson said she came to the gas station as soon as she could Monday after learning of the news over the weekend.

Johnson filled up at Enmark on the 118 bypass, where regular gas was \$1.99.

"I work on the road so it (the gas price) impacts what I do," Johnson said. "I'm not quite as careful when gas is low about the stops that I make.

"When gas goes up, I am. I make sure I make my stops along the way, so I'm not backtracking and using more gas."

Sheran Shrawder, of Windsor, also arrived to the gas station and said she had driven around the Southside and saw prices had gone up by at least 20 cents, saying in the middle of last week she paid around \$1.79.

"It takes me 25 miles to go anywhere because I live in the woods," Shrawder said. "I take care of my mother. She's 74 and has a lot of doctor appointments, so I'm in town maybe twice a week just carrying her around and that's \$20 every time."

Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order filed Sept. 14 that says she has determined an

emergency exists in the state "for the limited purpose of complying with the declaration of emergency in the state of Georgia."

The order directs the S.C. Departments of Transportation and Public Safety and the State Transport Police, as needed, to "suspend federal rules and regulations that limit the hours operators of commercial vehicles may drive, in order to ensure the uninterrupted supply of gasoline and other fuels needing to be moved on the highways of Georgia."

The suspension "shall remain in effect for seven days or until the emergency condition ceases to exist, whichever is less," the order reads.

Another executive order was reported to have been issued Monday by Haley to help gas supplies coming into the state.

Fuel appeared available for customers at Enmark and a gas station at Kroger in Aiken on Monday, while a BP gas station

in Aiken still had signs up that said some grades of fuel were not available at the time.

An employee at that store said the station was not out of gas.

Kyle Wyszynski, a USC Aiken student, who said he heard about the pipeline while in Atlanta over the weekend, filled up at Kroger on Monday.

He said he only had to wait a few minutes to get to the pump,

though the gas station was crowded.

The student said the drive to school was rather short for him, but he still had plans to come back and fill up two other vehicles.

"I don't think I'll be affected too much," Wyszynski said. "I don't think gas prices will be high for too long, but I don't know what the severity of the issue is so we'll see."

Leah Emery was also at the gas station filling her husband's car but was less concerned. She said the location is regularly

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packed.

"I'm just out of gas," Emery said. "I don't bother to panic. I figured I could get gas somewhere, but it may be more expensive than usual."

AAA Carolinas Public Relations Manager Tiffany Wright said Monday that AAA is reminding motorists the issue is temporary and asks them to continue normal habits at the pump.

Christina Cleveland is the county government reporter at the *Aiken Standard*. The Associated Press contributed to this report.



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND

Sheran Shrawder, of Windsor, fills up her truck at Enmark on the 118 bypass on Monday.

Title: **No reason to panic due to pipeline break**
 Author:
 Size: 56.73 column inches
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No reason to panic due to pipeline break

Though a pipeline break in Alabama released 250,000 gallons earlier this month, leading to a shortage in fuel and increase in gas prices in some areas across the South, there shouldn't be a reason to panic.

There is a shortage, and, at least in South Carolina, prices at some gas stations have steadily increased, topping \$2 per gallon in some areas.

Between last week and Monday, Gov. Nikki Haley has issued two executive orders, allowing an increase in the number of fuel truck deliveries, which means more gas is coming.

This weekend, the *Aiken Standard* visited five gas stations on or near the S.C. 118 Bypass from York Street to Whiskey Road and another gas station on Silver Bluff Road.

At three of the gas stations, employees said they had gas to sell, but declined to comment further. At one of the gas stations, an employee reported that its supplies were getting low, and at another, an employee said his boss had told him that it was possible that the business wouldn't be getting more gas for two weeks.

Some gas pumps even showed signs that regular unleaded and "mid-grade" weren't available.

This shortage shouldn't be a shortage for long.

This isn't post-Katrina, when the gas flow from the Gulf of Mexico had been severely impaired following the devastation in New Orleans.

This isn't the Great Recession, either, when a panic in the South caused gas prices to jump from about \$2 a gallon to more than \$6 a gallon in some areas in about five

hours.

This also, as some of you may remember, isn't 1973 and the Nixon years, when gas prices spiked to a whole 50 cents a gallon during the Mideast oil embargo.

Now, we're a smarter people. Though Haley acted quickly by issuing an executive order, that doesn't mean we initiate a mass panic.

We must take a deep collective breath and remain calm. We should check the fuel gauge and factor in the mileage we have remaining and how we can start economizing our trips. Economizing is a new buzz word for budgeting.

We plan. We budget.

We remember when gas was more than \$4 a gallon, right?

It wasn't that long ago.

This is temporary.

Honest.

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Size: 56.73 column inches

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STAFF PHOTO BY DEDE BILES

Some types of gas weren't available at this gas station on the corner of Whiskey Road and East Pine Log Road on Sunday afternoon.

Title: **Pipeline spill raises Southern gasprices**
 Author: BY JACOB JORDAN Associated Press
 Size: 16.74 column inches
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



Pipeline spill raises Southern gas prices

BY JACOB JORDAN

Associated Press

ATLANTA

Lines formed at gas stations across the South over the weekend and drivers able to find fuel had to pay more in some cases, as prices edged up following a pipeline spill in Alabama.

Fuel supplies in at least five states – Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas – were threatened by the spill, and the U.S. Department of Transportation ordered the company responsible to take corrective action.

Sunday, supplies seemed to be fine in Columbia, and the long lines that some states have seen were not happening.

Mary Ann McCabe, 62, was in Columbia visiting her granddaughter and watching Gamecocks football. Before heading out Sunday morning, she spoke to her husband, back home in Kinston, North Carolina. “He

said there are gas stations that are closing already near us,” she said. “He told me to get gas before I had to drive back.”

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley issued an order that will allow an increase in fuel truck deliveries.

Quik Trip spokesman Mike Thornbrugh said several stations in South Carolina were seeing outages over the weekend. “When you have a pipeline of that magnitude go down, it just shows everybody unfortunately how fragile the system is and it doesn’t take much to cause some hiccups,” he told WYFF.

Columbia resident Donovan Hill, 22, heard about the situation, but wasn’t too worried. “Gas prices were already \$3 and some change before,” Hill said of previously high prices.

Staff writer *Glen Flanagan* contributed.

Title: **Alabama pipeline spill chokes supplies in the Carolinas**
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 Size: 50.22 column inches
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



GASOLINE PRICES

Alabama pipeline spill chokes supplies in the Carolinas

Associated Press

ATLANTA

Fuel supplies in at least five states including the Carolinas are threatened by a gasoline pipeline spill in Alabama, and the U.S. Department of Transportation has ordered the company responsible to take corrective action before the fuel starts flowing again.

Colonial Pipeline Co. must conduct testing and analysis on the failed section of the pipeline, according to the department's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Agency, which is investigating the spill in rural Alabama.

Meanwhile, the governors of both North Carolina and South Carolina have issued executive orders designed to ease

the impact on gasoline supplies and prices.

The pipeline has been shut down for more than a week. News outlets reported that gasoline prices in some areas of the Carolinas have increased in recent days.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley issued an order that will allow an increase in the number of fuel truck deliveries.

An order issued by Gov. Pat McCrory in North Carolina waives some of the size and weight restrictions on gasoline tank

trucks. McCrory said that should help protect consumers from excessive gas prices and ensure an uninterrupted supply of fuel.

Colonial Pipeline has acknowledged that between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from a pipeline near Helena, Alabama, since the spill was first detected Sept. 9. It's unclear when the spill actually started. The pipeline section that failed runs from Mississippi to Atlanta.

The agency said the spill is "within an unusually sensitive ecological area" and it ordered Colonial to take action "to protect the public, property and the environment from potential hazards."

"The department will remain on site to carry out its investigation, and make sure the operator is taking the necessary steps to prevent any future incidents," agency administrator Marie Therese Dominguez said in a statement.

In a statement Saturday, the Alpharetta, Georgia-based company said that repair work had begun in an effort to return the pipeline to service "as rapidly and safely as possible."

The company said it is shipping as much gasoline as possible on its distillate mainline, Line 2, in order to mitigate the impact of the pipeline that has been

shut down. Colonial earlier said most of the leaked gasoline is contained in a retention pond near the city of Helena and there's no public safety concern.

Motorists could pay more for gasoline in coming days, although experts say that any spike in service-station prices should only be temporary. Colonial said that supply disruptions would be felt first in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. If prices rise, the effect could be felt the hardest in Tennessee, which is supplied by a spur off the leaky pipeline.

In response to the shutdown, the governors in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee announced they would lift restrictions on the number of hours that truck drivers delivering fuel can work, in hopes of preventing fuel shortages. Governors can suspend federal transportation regulations during emergencies.

A spokeswoman for Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley said Friday that he's in communication with pipeline company officials along with state and federal officials assisting at the spill location.

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal said he was confident his order lifting re-

strictions for drivers would help.

"We are confident these measures will help ensure Georgians' uninterrupted access to motor fuel until Alabama's pipeline is fixed," Deal said in a statement.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam said his order was a precautionary measure.

"We are not currently seeing any widespread unavailability of petroleum in Tennessee," Haslam said in a statement. "We urge Tennesseans to maintain their normal fuel purchasing and driving patterns to help prevent any potential impacts on our fuel supply while the pipeline undergoes repairs."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency waived requirements this week that metro areas with air quality issues in Georgia and Tennessee use a cleaner-burning type of gasoline during the summer months. That requirement of the Clean Air Act expired at midnight Thursday.

Title: **Alabamapipeline spillchokes supplies intheCarolinas**
Author: Associated Press
Size: 50.22 column inches
Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



AP file photo

Following upticks in the price of gasoline, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley issued an order that will allow an increase in the number of fuel truck deliveries.

Title: **Greenville County gas rises 11 cents**
 Author: ANNA LEE ZLEE@GREENVILLENEWS.COM
 Size: 26.35 column inches
 Greenville, SC Circulation: 113473



Greenville County gas rises 11 cents

Increase caused by Alabama pipeline leak

ANNA LEE

ZLEE@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

Gas prices ticked up again at some Upstate stations in the wake of a pipeline leak that dumped between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline in Alabama.

Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order Friday to increase the num-

ber of fuel truck deliveries and mitigate possible impacts on the state's fuel supply. Locally, some gas stations were already seeing shortages by Saturday afternoon.

At the Ingles in Liberty, signs on the pumps advised customers that the station was out of regular and midgrade gas.

In Simpsonville, the QuikTrip on

Harrison Bridge Road was out of mid-grade and premium, one reader said.

Near downtown Greenville, prices at

the Rutherford Street QuikTrip held steady at \$2.09 a gallon.

Regular unleaded prices across Greenville County were up 11.4 cents from Friday's average of \$2.01 a gallon, according to GasBuddy.com. The average price in South Carolina as of 6:45 p.m. Saturday was \$2, the website said.

The *Associated Press* reported that fuel supplies in at least five states are

threatened by the Colonial Pipeline Co. spill. The U.S. Department of Transportation has ordered the company responsible to take corrective action before the fuel starts flowing again, according to the AP.

The Alpharetta, Georgia-based company said in a statement Saturday that repair work had begun in an effort to return the pipeline to service "as rapidly and safely as possible," AP reported.

Staff writer Amanda C. Coyne contributed to this report.

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 Size: 50.22 column inches
 Beaufort, SC Circulation: 11269



GASOLINE PRICES

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Associated Press

ATLANTA

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The pipeline has been shut down for more than a week. News outlets reported that gasoline prices in some areas of the Carolinas have increased in recent days.

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Motorists could pay more for gasoline in coming days, although experts say that any spike in service-station prices should only be temporary. Colonial said that supply disruptions would be felt first in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. If prices rise, the effect could be felt the hardest in Tennessee, which is supplied by a spur off the leaky pipeline.

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AP file photo

Following upticks in the price of gasoline, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley issued an order that will allow an increase in the number of fuel truck deliveries.

Title: **South Carolina Democrats say uEnough is Enough**
 Author: BY MARGIE BRIGHT MATTHEWS, JAMES SMITH, JOHN KING, AND MANDY POWERS NORRELL Guest Column
 Size: 48.51 column inches
 Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



GUEST COLUMN

South Carolina Democrats say “Enough is Enough”

BY MARGIE BRIGHT MATTHEWS, JAMES SMITH, JOHN KING, AND MANDY POWERS NORRELL
Guest Column

In March 1854, 30 opponents of slavery gathered in Ripon, Wisconsin.

These objectors recognized that America’s future prosperity depended on its ability to expand opportunity to as many people as possible. They understood that this goal could only be achieved if the union, increasingly polarized by slavery and talks of secession, was preserved and secured. It was there that the Republican Party was born.

In 2016, however, that same party now stands for division, exclusion and isolation. Donald Trump enjoys support of white nationalists, praises the tactics of autocrats (while also employing some of their supporters),

advocates trade wars and tax cuts for the rich, and preaches a message of hate toward Mexicans and Muslims.

Here in South Carolina, we have observed firsthand the deterioration of the Party of Lincoln into the Party of Trump.

Democrats say, “Enough is enough.” Our party offers a better way to bring opportunity, security and unity to South Carolina.

S.C. Republicans have controlled the Governor’s Mansion and both chambers of the General Assembly continuously since 2003.

Eight of the nine members of our congressional delegation

are Republicans. If Republican policies were going to deliver results for South Carolinians, surely they would have done so by now.

Republicans have failed to provide opportunity to South Carolinians striving to get ahead — we are 49th in economic mobility. Our schools remain woefully neglected, and our public universities are the most expensive in the nation for in-state students from low-income families.

Republicans have voted to cut Head Start, nutrition and Pell Grants. South Carolina ranks 46th in hourly wages and 47th in per capita GDP. Democrats will raise the minimum wage.

If some of our congressional Republicans had their way, job training would be cut, there would be no more S.C. jobs that rely on the Export-Import Bank to compete internationally, and workers losing their jobs because of global trade would be abandoned.

Republicans have failed to keep South Carolinians secure from threats of all kinds. Nearly 200 South Carolinians are expected to die every year because Republicans have refused to expand Medicaid — which, given the offer by South Carolina hospitals to offset whatever minimal state cost may arise, would have zero impact on our

state budget.

Our state’s roads are the deadliest in the country. We know how to make them safer.

But the Republicans in the Legislature refuse to devote the resources to do so. And the majority of S.C. Republicans in Congress voted against the most recent highway bill.

South Carolina has the ignominious distinction of being the deadliest state for women.

Yet all of the Republicans in our congressional delegation voted against the most recent authorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Republicans would put us at greater risk from overseas threats. Donald Trump’s bigoted fear-mongering would alienate allies and embolden extremist groups.

ISIS is openly rooting for him to win because of the damage

he would inflict upon America’s image in the world. Hillary Clinton has the judgment and experience to prevent ISIS from regenerating and stop its sympathizers from attacking us. Regardless of the perpetrator’s motive — religious extremism, racism, homophobia, mental illness, anger or anything else — the harm that is perpetrated is likely to be much greater if a firearm is involved.

Our state has the 11th highest rate of deaths by firearm, in a country that has a far higher rate

than the rest of the developed world.

Yet our Republican politicians refuse to support even the most basic gun safety measures, like requiring universal background checks and prohibiting suspected terrorists from buying guns. Just as Donald Trump would fail to unite us as one America, Republicans have failed to unite us as one South Carolina.

Gov. Nikki Haley has talked a good game, saying in her State of the State address that we are all brothers and sisters.

But actions speak louder than words, and Republicans have allowed far too many South Carolinians to endure hardships they would never allow their own brothers and sisters to endure.

Enough is enough of dangerous Republican divisiveness and failed Republican governance. Only Democrats can deliver the opportunity, security, and unity that the founders of the Republican Party sought.

Margie Bright Matthews is a member of the S.C. Senate from Walterboro. **James Smith, John King, and Mandy Powers Norrell** are S.C. House members from Columbia, Rock Hill, and Lancaster respectively. They are the co-chairs of the 2016 S.C. Democratic Coordinated Campaign.