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**Date:** 3/15/2016 12:11:51 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Test Message - Gov. Nikki Haley Signs Bill Creating Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees

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From: SC Gov News [mailto:govnews@gov.sc.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 12:12 PM  
To: Symmes, Brian  
Subject: Test Message - Gov. Nikki Haley Signs Bill Creating Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees

March 16, 2016  
For immediate release  
Contact: Brian Symmes, 803-673-9437  
[BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov](mailto:BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov)

## **Gov. Nikki Haley Signs Bill Creating Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees** *H.4666 – Increasing Interagency Communication To Stem Domestic Violence In S.C.*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – Governor Nikki Haley today signed into law [H.4666](#), a bill that establishes a Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee in each of the 16 Solicitor Circuits.

Legislation formalizing a fatality review process for domestic violence was Recommendation 19 of the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force's [Report](#) from August 2015. South Carolina was just one of [nine states](#) that did not have a domestic fatality review team.

Under the new law, Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees will identify and review deaths linked to domestic violence and make recommendations to the State Domestic Violence Advisory, which was created by the 2015 Domestic Violence Reform Bill. Committees will be made up of local domestic violence advocates, law enforcement professionals, medical professionals, and others with expertise in investigating domestic violence cases.

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Members of the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force, Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin, Representative Tommy Pope celebrated today's bill signing with the governor during a ceremony at the Statehouse. Video of the event can be found on Governor Haley's YouTube page ([hyperlink](#)).

"I am greatly encouraged by the passage of the domestic violence fatality review bill in South Carolina," said Dr. Neil Websdale, Director of the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative. "Setting up a network of review teams will help create and/or enhance coordinated community responses to domestic violence, thus building better protections for victims and encouraging greater offender accountability."

[LM Quote]

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