

# State of South Carolina

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Cherokee County Court House  
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**BARRY J. BARNETTE**  
*Solicitor, Seventh Judicial Circuit*

June 19, 2013

The Honorable Nikki Haley  
Governor of the State of South Carolina  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: Request to Veto R94, H3342 (Bench Warrant Bill)

Dear Governor Haley:

I am writing this letter to join with my fellow Circuit Solicitors in asking for your support to veto R94, H3342, which was ratified by the General Assembly on June 11, 2013. The Solicitors' Association has already written a letter dated June 17, 2013 stating the position of the all of the Solicitors in our state. The letter stated that I could not be reached. I am presently in an Attempted Murder trial involving Robert Odell Brown that started on June 17, 2013 and is still being tried at this time. The victim is Deputy Brad James of the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office, and he was shot by this individual in the face as well as in the back after attempting a traffic stop. Mr. Brown was on probation at the time of this offense.

The problem with this bill is that it creates delays which will allow defendants to avoid court and gives them the possible opportunity to commit more crime. Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright and Cherokee County Sheriff Steve Mueller have expressed their frustrations with repeated offenders being on probation and/or bond and committing more crimes in our circuit. This bill would allow defendants to commit additional crimes while on bond and while not complying with court orders in their cases to appear for court.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 864-596-3816. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Barry J. Barnette  
SOLICITOR

BJB:sop