

Title: **Senator asks court to clarify process to replace Lt. Gov.**  
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## Senator asks court to clarify process to replace Lt. Gov.

BY CASSIE COPE  
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A Lowcountry state senator wants the S.C. Supreme Court to clarify how Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster will be replaced as the state's second in command.

Sen. Tom Davis, R-Beaufort, filed a petition Monday with the court seeking a ruling that the governor cannot appoint a lieutenant governor until after the 2018 election.

"The matter needs to be resolved," Davis said, adding that a vacancy in the governor's office looms with Gov. Nikki Haley poised to become the U.S. ambassador to the

U.N. as early as next month.

The ratification language that lawmakers approved after a 2014 statewide referendum — allowing the governor and lieutenant governor to be elected on the same ticket — omitted a 2018 starting date for the governor to appoint a new lieutenant governor if that post becomes vacant, Davis says.

That means the president pro tempore of the Senate, now Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, should rise to lieutenant governor if McMaster becomes governor, Davis said.

However, Leatherman, who chairs the Senate's budget-writing committee

and has many appointment powers as Senate leader, has said he is not interested in becoming lieutenant governor, a virtually powerless position.

In 2014, when there was a vacancy in the lieutenant governor's post, then-Senate President Pro Tempore John Courson, R-Richland, resigned as Senate leader to avoid becoming lieutenant governor. State Sen. Yancey McGill of Williamsburg was elected president pro tempore and, then, became lieutenant governor.

Davis said he wants other state leaders — including Leatherman, House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Darlington, and Haley, R-Lexington — to join him in his request that the Supreme Court clarify the succession issue immediately.

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Title: **5 issues awaiting Haley at the UN**  
 Author: BY AVERY WILKS [awilks@thestate.com](mailto:awilks@thestate.com)  
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# 5 issues awaiting Haley at the UN

BY AVERY WILKS  
[awilks@thestate.com](mailto:awilks@thestate.com)

A look at five issues S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will face if she is confirmed as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

## 1. THE IRAN DEAL

Under Barack Obama, the U.S. and five nations — Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia — reached a deal with Iran to dismantle its nuclear arms program in exchange for sanctions relief.

Donald Trump assailed the deal on the campaign trail, promising he would negotiate a tougher one with Iran.

As ambassador, Haley will play a role in President Trump's Iran policy since some sanctions were imposed by the U.N. Security Council.

"The U.N. will play a big role in monitoring the Iran nuclear deal," said Bob Cox, director of the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies at the University of South Carolina. "The ambassador to the U.N. is

**FROM PAGE 1C**

## HALEY

"These are areas it's been in Russia's interest to maintain chaos," Cox said.

Russian-backed hackers also are thought to have

going to be a very important person in explaining what the United States' position is."

## 2. REFUGEES

When the Obama Administration announced plans to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees into the United States in 2016, Haley asked the State Department to consider not sending any to South Carolina. Donald Trump had an even stronger response, calling for a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States."

As U.N. ambassador, Haley will be part of an organization responsible for about 65 million refugees worldwide.

"The United Nations' job is providing support to people who are displaced by conflict," USC's Cox said. "Many of these missions require U.S. support. ... That's one area where I think she is going to run up against domestic U.S. issues. She's likely to feel some pressure."

## 3. THE WAR IN SYRIA

Many of those refugees are fleeing a 5-year-old civil war in

Syria. The conflict — among the dictatorship of Bashar Assad, anti-Assad rebels and Islamic State, or ISIS — presents one of the biggest headaches Haley will face at the U.N.

"The humanitarian crises, particularly in the city of Aleppo, is almost unprecedented," Cox said.

Haley also will have to navigate choppy waters with Russia, which supports Assad's regime.

## 4. RUSSIA'S 'FROZEN' CONFLICTS

Haley will be tasked with working with Russia's U.N. representatives even as the United States considers how to deal with Russian activities in Syria and elsewhere.

The U.S. imposed sanctions on Russia for its 2015 annexation of Crimea from the Ukraine. Russia also is involved in disputes over the territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, seized in a 2008 war with the Republic of Georgia, a U.S. ally.

**SEE HALEY, 2C**

launched cyberattacks on U.S. targets this year.

## 5. REPRESENTING DONALD TRUMP

Being a U.S. ambassa-

dor is a challenge under any circumstances. Being Trump's ambassador could pose unique challenges.

Haley might find herself inundated with countries

coming to her with "diplomatic slights."

For example, Cox said, "We learned ... the president-elect took a phone call from the president of Taiwan. It caused a bit of



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In the case of future phone calls, Leaders in Beijing will talk to the U.S. ambassador in Beijing, the Chinese ambassador in Washington will talk to the State Department, and

the Chinese ambassador to the U.N. will contact Nikki Haley, Cox said.
Trump's unpredictability could make responding to any future slights an uncomfortable task.
To the extent that she might be caught unawares

and might not have time to prep, it could be a special challenge, Cox said.
U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford, the Charleston Republican who once was Haley's mentor, has his own suggestion for handling the U.N. role.

I would suggest she be very careful of falling into the nationalist trap Trump seemed to be setting on the campaign trail, he said.
At the end of the day, we're only 5 percent of the world's population.

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## POLITICS

# The education of Nikki Haley

BY AVERY G. WILKS,  
BRISTOW MARCHANT  
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*The (Columbia) State*

COLUMBIA

**B**efore a S.C. governor steps on a plane for a foreign economic development trip, he or she first spends weeks studying a thick briefing book, prepared by the state Department of Commerce.

There are dossiers on corporate officials the governor will meet, plus a rundown of the company's history, its relationship with the United States and South Carolina, the jobs it could bring and the specifics of its potential investment in the Palmetto State.

In some cases, the governor gets a tutorial on the country's social norms: Businessmen in the Far East present their business cards with two hands and a bow, and it is an affront in some cultures to stop drinking before the host.

"It's like putting together a battle plan for the Super Bowl," said Bob McAlister, a spokesman and chief of staff under late S.C. Gov. Carroll Campbell. "It is a very detailed, time-consuming effort to get a governor prepared for an economic development trip overseas."

Until now, those trips have served as the bulk of S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley's foreign policy experience: eight visits to seven countries, helping attract more than \$13 billion in overseas investment in the Palmetto State since 2011,

according to the state Commerce Department.

That means President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for U.S. ambassador to the United Nations has work to do before her Senate confirmation hearing, expected in January.

Haley's office is tight-lipped on how she is preparing.

The Republican has said she would continue to serve as S.C. governor until her confirmation, though she has handed off traditional gubernatorial appearances — at military briefings and groundbreakings — to GOP Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster.

"In coordination with the presidential transition team, Gov. Haley has met with and spoken to numerous diplomatic and national security leaders, and she will continue to do so," Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said.

Former ambassadors from South Carolina say Haley likely will spend at least the next month studying up on U.N. operations and international relations, even though she is expected to coast to confirmation.

"She's getting a Ph.D.," said U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-Seneca. "They've given her a lot of information to absorb."

It will take time before Haley is fully comfortable as the face of the country on a prominent

world stage, some say. But, most add, she has the skills necessary for the new role.

## 'DRINKING FROM A FIRE HOSE'

Since her nomination, Haley has reached out to David Wilkins, a Greenville attorney who was U.S. ambassador to Canada under former President George W. Bush, and spoken with Graham.

Graham said he talked to Haley about his views on the Middle East. But neither he nor Wilkins would go into detail on their discussions with the governor.

"We've had a couple of conversations about following your instincts, relying on (your staff)," Wilkins said. "There's no way you can not feel overwhelmed at first, but it'll all come to you."

Prospective ambassadors, typically, receive an intense "crash course" from U.S. State Department officials, several former ambassadors said last week.

That usually starts with a two-week "ambassadors' school" on everything from State Department jargon — DCH stands for "deputy chief of mission," for example — to how to handle different document classifications, speak with media and run an embassy.

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"It's like drinking from a fire hose to start with because there's so much being thrown at you," Wilkins said.

After that follows another week learning about the ambassador's destination country, including its history, political climate, government structure and key issues the ambassador could face.

Bob Royall, former S.C. secretary of Commerce and the U.S. ambassador to Tanzania under George W. Bush, remembers learning the east African country recently had converted to capitalism, its president was Catholic, and that it was one of the largest producers of cashews

in Africa. He even spent a week starting to learn Swahili, the country's official language.

Haley's training for ambassador to the U.N. likely will be somewhat different.

She will live in New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel, not a faraway embassy, and will interact with numerous countries, not just one.

Philip Lader, a former Winthrop University president and U.S. ambassador to the United Kingdom's Court of St. James under former President Bill Clinton, expects Haley instead will go through intensive briefings with the State Department on geopolitics and U.N. oper-

ations.

She likely will be given "stacks and stacks" of briefing books to study ahead of her Senate confirmation hearing, Lader said. Typically, prospective appointees also have a "mock hearing" in which State Department staff quizzes them ahead of the real thing before senators, he said.

"It's a very intense process for any individual because it's a big world out there," Lader said.

**SEE EDUCATION, 2C**

**FROM PAGE 1C**

## EDUCATION

"But she has demonstrated an excellent capacity for learning."

### 'IT'S THE RELATIONSHIP SKILLS'

Haley is not starting totally from Square 1.

She has some foreign experience from her eight trips abroad, which S.C. Commerce Department officials credit with a wave of new investments in the state.

German manufacturers Continental Tire and Mercedes-Benz, Singapore-based tire manufacturer Giti, and Swedish automaker Volvo have opened new plants in South Carolina since Haley's inauguration. BMW, of Germany, and French tire maker Michelin have expanded their operations here.

"Nikki Haley stood out above all the government officials we dealt with as one of the most impressive I've met," said Tim Rogers, vice president of finance at Continental Tire the Americas. "She's,

by far, the most personable. She's able to relate to people in all sincerity, not like a politician."

Julianto Djajadi, Giti North America's executive vice president for business operations, said his company's foreign executives were at ease dealing with the daughter of Indian immigrants because they felt she has a "great understanding and appreciation" for international actors.

"That's going to be very important," Djajadi said. "Because her parents are immigrants and the diversity of the United States, she can see things from many different perspectives. In the international world, having that diverse background can be a bridge."

Since 2011, nearly 200 companies from more than 30 countries have announced economic development projects in the Palmetto State, S.C. Commerce Secretary Bob-Hitt said.

Haley's success in attracting foreign investment shows she is cut out for the U.N. job, former S.C. Gov. David Beasley said.

Relating to people from different backgrounds and views, and traveling abroad to negotiate for economic development and "selling your state" have prepared Haley, the Republican said.

"The most powerful weapon is not the knowledge of the individual walking into the room. It's the relationship skills," Beasley said.

"She has the personality, she has a powerful smile that will win hearts," he added. "A hug, a smile, a loving handshake and she will have leaders eating out of her hand."

### 'A QUICK STUDY'

Current and former S.C. leaders and diplomats have little doubt Haley can succeed.

Virtually all say she

learns quickly, communicates clearly and can think on her feet, though she might be overwhelmed at first.

"She is very qualified," said Wilkins, the former ambassador to Canada. "She's a quick study. She's smart. She's got good people skills. She's a very good communicator. She's dealt with officials. She's handled crises. All those skills she honed as a governor are very transferable."

Haley also has received national praise as a unifier for her handling of the removal of the Confederate flag from the S.C. State House grounds after the 2015 Charleston massacre and her response to two natural disasters over the past 14 months.

Haley's experience leading the state should translate to her new job, where she will be America's face and voice to the U.N.'s 193 member states, former S.C. Gov. Jim Hodges said.

"The experiences you get

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as a governor in dealing with all types of different people and an array of different problems, that experience is hard to match,” the Democrat said. “That’s a more important element of picking anyone for a high-level job. Have they been exposed to making tough decisions? If they have, that’s probably a lot more important than how many countries they’ve been to.”

Sen. Graham said Haley’s demeanor is great for a job that’s one part diplomacy, one part political networking and one part charm.

“She can be very char-

ming, but she’s tough,” the Republican said, adding that will help when her job requires being on the defense, such as standing up to the body if it targets Israel.

Haley’s Senate confirmation hearing is expected to be friendly. Senate Democrats have bigger fish to fry among Republican Trump’s cabinet nominees. But she could face questions on substantive issues, including past U.N. actions, the state of the U.N. budget or pressing foreign policy matters, Lader said.

### **Haley’s international**

### **resume**

#### **Gov. Nikki Haley’s international trips as governor of South Carolina:**

- **2011:** Paris air show, BMW’s Munich HQ
- **2012:** London air show
- **2012:** Tokyo trade mission
- **2013:** Frankfurt, Germany, auto show
- **2014:** Canada trade mission
- **2014:** India trade mission
- **2015:** Sweden, Volvo plant negotiations
- **2015:** Frankfurt auto show, Sweden trade mission

SOURCE: S.C. Department of Commerce

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CLIFF OWEN AP

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is seen through drapes while speaking at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention on Nov. 18.

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DAVID GOLDMAN AP

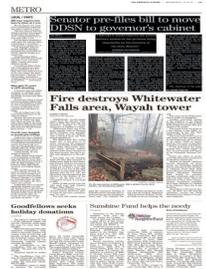
Then-Republican presidential candidate, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., is introduced by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley on Feb. 29 at a campaign event at the InterContinental Hotel in Atlanta.



JOE BURBANK Orlando Sentinel/TNS

Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina makes a point as Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin listens on Nov. 15.

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# Senator pre-files bill to move DDSN to governor's cabinet

TIM SMITH

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COLUMBIA - A state senator has prefiled a bill to move the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs into the governor's cabinet, saying the move is necessary to improve the care and accountability for the state's vulnerable adults.

The legislation by Sen. John Scott, a Columbia Democrat, is similar to a bill he filed during the past session that failed to pass.

This time, however, Scott has the backing of some other senators, including Sen. Harvey Peeler of Gaffney, a Republican and chairman of the Senate Medical Affairs Committee, which oversees DDSN.

"It's not going to go away," Scott told *The Greenville News* concerning issues with the agency. "We're going to have to fix these problems."

Scott's bill would require that the agency, which is now governed by a seven-member commission appointed by the governor, be overseen instead by a director appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The director would serve at the pleasure of the governor.

## DDSN

Continued from Page 3A

then, Sen. Thomas Alexander, a Walhalla Republican, said none of his questions were inappropriate or improper and were not intended to be.

"These kinds of things should not be tol-

The director could then hire and remove any employee at the agency, under the bill, while the commission would become an advisory board.

DDSN serves thousands of those with intellectual disabilities, autism, brain and spinal injuries through its system of regional centers, private providers and county disabilities agencies. It employs more than 2,100 workers full time and another almost 9,000 are employed in the agency's provider network. The agency's current budget totals \$729 million, most of which is federal money.

Scott told *The News* in August that he planned to file the bill again, saying he had lost faith in the agency and believes change was needed.

On Tuesday he said there have been more questions raised since then about deaths and injuries as well as spending by the agency. He said he believes the agency has failed to take responsibility for incidents with vulnerable adults.

Scott pointed to articles in *The Greenville News* as evidence of the problems that remain with the agency.

He also cited the recent re-

marks of the board's chairman, Bill Danielson, who criticized senators for questions posed to the agency's director at a recent hearing.

Last month, Danielson said during a commission meeting that he was speaking for himself, not the agency or commission but was unhappy with the Senate hearing, describing some of the questions to DDSN's director as "intolerable."

"It was an embarrassment to our executive director," he told *The News* last month. "She'll never say that. But I'll say that. To sit there and some of the insinuations and the direct questions, I found appalling, frankly."

The chairman of the panel

See DDSN, Page 6A

**"I feel like it would improve the service delivery system by the governor being responsible for the selection of the state director."**

**DEBORAH MCPHERSON**

A FORMER DDSN COMMISSIONER AND ADVOCATE FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS

about making sure the most vulnerable population in this state is well taken care of."

Danielson said in August when asked about Scott's bill that the agency would work with whatever model law-

makers decided best.

"The Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs and the department will abide by the General Assembly and governor," he said. "That goes without saying. There are benefits



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to both the cabinet model and the commission model. In either model, both the governor and the Legislature are involved in deciding the leadership.

Asked Tuesday about Scott's bill, Chaney Adams, press secretary for Gov. Nikki Haley, said, "the governor believes more accountability would be a good thing for DDSN."

Scott said governors in the past have tried replacing board members

in an effort to make the agency better.

"The agency hasn't gotten better, it's gotten worse," he said.

Deborah McPherson, a former DDSN commissioner and advocate for vulnerable adults, said she thinks if the choice is moving DDSN into the state's Medicaid agency or the cabinet, the cabinet would be the better move.

She said if a governor can appoint a director who then has the ability to replace any employee,

the agency can be improved.

"I feel like it would improve the service delivery system by the governor being responsible for the selection of the state director," she said.

Last year, Scott filed a bill with Sen. Kevin Bryant of Anderson to place the agency in the state Department of Health and Human Services, which administer's Medicaid funding used by many vulnerable adults.

Officials estimated

the bill would initially cost the state \$1.1 million in technology and communication costs if enacted. The legislation did not make it out of committee.

McPherson said she fears if the agency was placed in HHS, it might not get the attention it needs compared to making it part of the governor's cabinet.

The Legislature returns to work in January with a new, two-year session.

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**Thank you for appointing  
Haley U.N. ambassador**

Dear President-elect Trump,  
We South Carolinians thank you for appointing Gov. Nikki Haley as ambassador to the United Nations. Henry McMaster will then move to the governor's office. The honorable McMaster is truly a good ole boy of South Carolina.

We have one more request to ask of you. Would you please appoint Lindsey Graham as ambassador to outer Mongolia?

Thank you and best of luck to you.

**Pat Thompson**

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## POLITICS

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Haley's office is tight-lipped on how she is preparing.

The Republican has said she would continue to serve as S.C. governor until her confirmation, though she has handed off traditional gubernatorial appearances — at military briefings and groundbreakings — to GOP Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster.

"In coordination with the presidential transition team, Gov. Haley has met with and spoken to numerous diplomatic and national security leaders, and she will continue to do so," Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said.

Former ambassadors from South Carolina say Haley likely will spend at least the next month studying up on U.N. operations and international relations, even though she is expected to coast to confirmation.

"She's getting a Ph.D.," said U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-Seneca. "They've given her a lot of information to absorb."

It will take time before Haley

is fully comfortable as the face of the country on a prominent world stage, some say. But, most add, she has the skills necessary for the new role.

### 'DRINKING FROM A FIRE HOSE'

Since her nomination, Haley has reached out to David Wilkins, a Greenville attorney who was U.S. ambassador to Canada under former President George W. Bush, and spoken with Graham.

Graham said he talked to Haley about his views on the Middle East. But neither he nor Wilkins would go into detail on their discussions with the governor.

"We've had a couple of conversations about following your instincts, relying on (your staff)," Wilkins said. "There's no way you can not feel overwhelmed at first, but it'll all come to you."

Prospective ambassadors, typically, receive an intense "crash course" from U.S. State Department officials, several former ambassadors said last week.

That usually starts with a two-week "ambassadors' school" on everything from State Department jargon — DCH stands for "deputy chief of mission," for example — to how to handle different document

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classifications, speak with media and run an embassy.

"It's like drinking from a fire hose to start with because there's so much being thrown at you," Wilkins said.

After that follows another week learning about the ambassador's destination country, including its history, political climate, government structure and key issues the ambassador could face.

Bob Royall, former S.C. secretary of Commerce and the U.S. ambassador to Tanzania under George W. Bush, remembers learning the east African country recently had converted to capitalism, its president was

Catholic, and that it was one of the largest producers of cashews in Africa. He even spent a week starting to learn Swahili, the country's official language.

Haley's training for ambassador to the U.N. likely will be somewhat different.

She will live in New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel, not a faraway embassy, and will interact with numerous countries, not just one.

Philip Lader, a former Winthrop University president and U.S. ambassador to the United Kingdom's Court of St. James under former President Bill Clinton, expects Haley instead

will go through intensive briefings with the State Department on geopolitics and U.N. operations.

She likely will be given "stacks and stacks" of briefing books to study ahead of her Senate confirmation hearing, Lader said. Typically, prospective appointees also have a "mock hearing" in which State Department staff quizzes them ahead of the real thing before senators, he said.

"It's a very intense process for any individual because it's a big world out there," Lader said.

**SEE EDUCATION, 2C**

**FROM PAGE 1C**

## EDUCATION

"But she has demonstrated an excellent capacity for learning."

### 'IT'S THE RELATIONSHIP SKILLS'

Haley is not starting totally from Square 1.

She has some foreign experience from her eight trips abroad, which S.C. Commerce Department officials credit with a wave of new investments in the state.

German manufacturers Continental Tire and Mercedes-Benz, Singapore-based tire manufacturer Giti, and Swedish automaker Volvo have opened new plants in South Carolina since Haley's inauguration. BMW, of Germany, and French tiremaker Michelin have expanded their operations here.

"Nikki Haley stood out above all the government officials we dealt with as one of the most impressive I've met," said Tim Rogers, vice president of finance at Continental Tire the Americas. "She's, by far, the most personable. She's able to relate to people in all sincerity, not like a politician."

Juanito Djajadi, Giti North America's executive vice president for business operations, said his company's foreign executives were at ease dealing with the daughter of Indian immigrants because they felt she has a "great understanding and appreciation" for international actors.

"That's going to be very important," Djajadi said. "Because her parents are immigrants and the diversity of the United States, she can see things from many different perspectives. In the international world, having that diverse background can be a bridge."

Since 2011, nearly 200 companies from more than 30 countries have announced economic development projects in the Palmetto State, S.C. Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt said.

Haley's success in attracting foreign investment shows she is cut out for the U.N. job, former

S.C. Gov. David Beasley said.

Relating to people from different backgrounds and views, and traveling abroad to negotiate for economic development and "selling your state" have prepared Haley, the Republican said.

"The most powerful weapon is not the knowledge of the individual walking into the room. It's the relationship skills," Beasley said.

"She has the personality, she has a powerful smile that will win hearts," he added. "A hug, a smile, a loving handshake and she will have leaders eating out of her hand."

### 'A QUICK STUDY'

Current and former S.C. leaders and diplomats have little doubt Haley can succeed.

Virtually all say she learns quickly, communicates clearly and can think on her feet, though she



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might be overwhelmed at first.

“She is very qualified,” said Wilkins, the former ambassador to Canada. “She’s a quick study. She’s smart. She’s got good people skills. She’s a very good communicator. She’s dealt with officials. She’s handled crises. All those skills she honed as a governor are very transferable.”

Haley also has received national praise as a unifier for her handling of the removal of the Confederate flag from the S.C. State House grounds after the 2015 Charleston massacre and her response to two natural disasters over the past 14 months.

Haley’s experience leading the state should translate to her new job,

where she will be America’s face and voice to the U.N.’s 193 member states, former S.C. Gov. Jim Hodges said.

“The experiences you get as a governor in dealing with all types of different

people and an array of different problems, that experience is hard to match,” the Democrat said. “That’s a more important element of picking anyone for a high-level job. Have they been exposed to making tough decisions? If they have, that’s probably a lot more important than how many countries they’ve been to.”

Sen. Graham said Haley’s demeanor is great for a job that’s one part diplomacy, one part political

networking and one part charm.

“She can be very charming, but she’s tough,” the Republican said, adding that will help when her job requires being on the defense, such as standing

up to the body if it targets Israel.

Haley’s Senate confirmation hearing is expected to be friendly. Senate Democrats have bigger fish to fry among Republican Trump’s cabinet nominees. But she could face questions on substantive issues, including past U.N. actions, the state of the U.N. budget or pressing foreign policy matters, Lader said.

## Haley’s international

## resume

### Gov. Nikki Haley’s international trips as governor of South Carolina:

- **2011:** Paris air show, BMW’s Munich HQ
- **2012:** London air show
- **2012:** Tokyo trade mission
- **2013:** Frankfurt, Germany, auto show
- **2014:** Canada trade mission
- **2014:** India trade mission
- **2015:** Sweden, Volvo plant negotiations
- **2015:** Frankfurt auto show, Sweden trade mission

SOURCE: S.C. Department of Commerce

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CLIFF OWEN AP

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is seen through drapes while speaking at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention on Nov. 18.

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DAVID GOLDMAN AP

Then-Republican presidential candidate, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., is introduced by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley on Feb. 29 at a campaign event at the InterContinental Hotel in Atlanta.



JOE BURBANK Orlando Sentinel/TNS

Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina makes a point as Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin listens on Nov. 15.

Title: **How will Rick Perry impact future of SRS?**  
 Author: BY THOMAS GARDINER [tgardiner@aikenstandard.com](mailto:tgardiner@aikenstandard.com)  
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# How will Rick Perry impact future of SRS?

## AP: Former Texas governor to lead U.S. Department of Energy

BY THOMAS GARDINER  
[tgardiner@aikenstandard.com](mailto:tgardiner@aikenstandard.com)

The former Texas governor who once said he wanted to do away with the Department of Energy could oversee and direct the agency's activities, which would include those at South Carolina's Savannah River Site, if confirmed under President-elect Donald Trump's administration.

Citing sources, the Associated Press and other media outlets reported Tuesday that former Texas Gov. Rick Perry is Trump's top choice to become secretary of energy.

At the 2011 presidential debate, Perry, 66, famously forgot three federal agencies, one being the Energy Department, when he promised, if elected, to elimi-

nate three federal agencies. The two others were Commerce and Education.

Though Perry has been critical of some of the Energy Department's policy initiatives, such as climate change, his voting record and debate performances show a history of experience with energy regulation and legislation. That history includes strong support for cleanup of nuclear waste – a fundamental part of missions at SRS.

The Savannah River Site was built near Aiken in the 1950s to support nuclear materials construction for the Cold War effort. Some active nuclear programs are still ongoing at the site, such as tritium creation, used to maintain current nuclear weapons, and he-

lium-3, used for research purposes.

SRS missions are mostly under the umbrella of the Environmental Management office within the DOE. Major clean-up operations include the processing of 36 million gallons of radioactive waste, primarily by turning it into glass.

While no national repository exists for permanent disposal of the material, Perry's record indicates that could be a benchmark of his time in the cabinet.

### State-centered approach

Yucca Mountain in Nevada was

Please see **PERRY**, Page 12A

## Perry

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previously designated as the intended site for nuclear waste. However, the project has been abandoned during Barack Obama's presidency. During the Republican primary debate in 2011, Perry was asked if he supported opening the national repository.

"When you think about France, who gets over 70 per-

cent of their energy from nuclear power, they deal with this issue (via) glassification. Innovation is the answer to this. We don't need to be subsidizing energy in any form or fashion – allow the states to make the decision. And some state out there will see the economic issue, and they will have it in their state," he said.

While Perry took a state-cen-

tric approach, nuclear debates in the Palmetto State indicate that he might be on to something.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has been an outspoken opponent of nuclear waste being brought into South Carolina and repeatedly said she refuses to let the state become a "nuclear dumping ground."

### Defense plutonium disposition

State government opposition in South Carolina goes back years, when former Gov. Jim Hodges threatened in 2002 to lie down in the road to prevent trucks from bringing in plutonium shipments from Rocky Flats in Colorado.

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That plutonium is still at the Savannah River Site.

Of the approximately 13 metric tons of plutonium at the site, about half is being downblended for disposal in New Mexico and the rest falls under the now suspended Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement.

Under the agreement, the weapons-usable plutonium is part of a broader total of 34 metric tons to be permanently removed from militarization. Russia agreed to demilitarize 34 metric tons of its own plutonium as well.

The U.S. agreed to dispose of the materials by turning it into fuel to be used in commercial nuclear power reactors. The Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, was designed to do just that. That facility is

long past its construction deadline and has a price tag already valued at about \$5 billion – and much remains unfinished.

The Obama Administration and Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz vowed to shut down the MOX facility, leading to the suspension of the Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The state of South Carolina also is embattled in a lawsuit with the DOE over the missed construction deadlines.

Haley said the DOE needs to fulfill its obligations to the people of South Carolina; a sentiment echoed in Perry's voting record.

Perry signed a Southern Governors' Association resolution in 2001, asking Energy Department administrators to hold up

their end of bargains in cases like MOX.

The resolution urged full funding for all of DOE's past and present commitments related to clean-up operations at DOE nuclear energy and weapons sites. It also said states' rights must be respected and that processing of DOE research and weapons waste must be made in consultation with the various states concluding in mutually agreeable terms.

### Palmetto reaction

U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., responded to Perry's nomination with hopeful optimism.

"America is fortunate that President-elect Donald Trump intends to nominate former Gov. Rick Perry to serve as Sec-

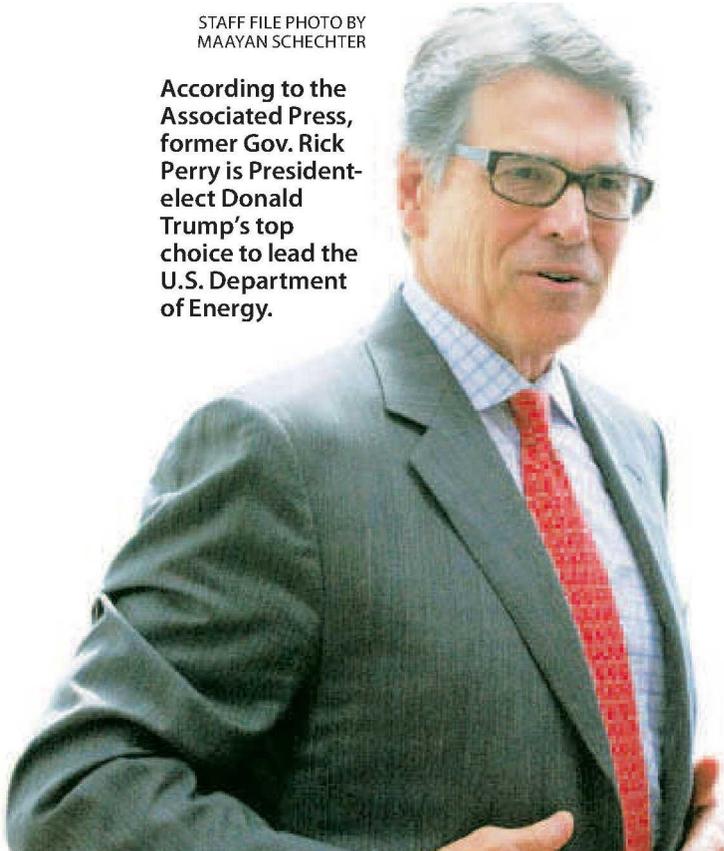
retary of Energy. I look forward to working with him in the coming months to discuss the Savannah River Site and other energy priorities of South Carolina's Second Congressional District," he said in a prepared statement.

While his official nomination is still pending his acceptance and Congressional confirmation, it is clear that the incoming Secretary of Energy will have a direct impact on the future of Aiken County.

Wilson said, "With Governor Perry, I am confident we can accomplish an 'all of the above' energy policy – one that includes finishing Yucca Mountain, supporting SRS, completing MOX, building the Keystone Pipeline, which produces jobs at Michelin of Lexington, and advancing energy independence."

STAFF FILE PHOTO BY  
MAAYAN SCHECHTER

**According to the Associated Press, former Gov. Rick Perry is President-elect Donald Trump's top choice to lead the U.S. Department of Energy.**





Title: LC Sheriff Tabbed By Haley For Training Council
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LC Sheriff Tabbed
By Haley For
Training Council

Kershaw News-Era
From Release

Lancaster County Sheriff Barry S. Faile has been appointed by South Carolina Governor Nikki R. Haley to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council. His term began Nov. 29, 2016, and he will serve at the pleasure of the governor.

All law enforcement officers in this state must be trained and certified by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. When it created by statute the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council, the General Assembly indicated its intent was "to maximize training

opportunities for law enforcement officers and criminal justice personnel, to coordinate training, and to set standards for the law enforcement and criminal justice service, all of which are imperative to upgrading law enforcement to professional status."

The training council has many powers and duties including developing police training programs and standards, publishing training materials, making regulations related to training, and training and certifying candidates for law enforcement positions.

For example, in

2015 the training council conducted hearings across the state to develop guidelines for the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement agencies. Those guidelines formed the basis for body-worn camera policies the agencies were required to implement. The training council also reviewed and had approval authority over those policies.

The training council has 11 members, including the South Carolina Attorney General; the Chief of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division; the heads of the Departments of

Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services, Corrections, Natural Resources, and Public Safety; and two sheriffs, two police chiefs, and one detention director.

"I am honored to have been appointed to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council by Governor Haley," said Sheriff Faile. "Training and professionalism in law enforcement have never been more critical. The training council plays a vital role in ensuring that we provide the best and most up-to-date training possible to the men and women who protect us."

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***The Kershaw Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting last week for downtown business The Owl's Nest. From the left are chamber members Danny Williams, Spencer Briggs, Tyler Reeves, Owl's Nest staffers Matthan Sowell, Megan Roberts, owner Jessica Sowell, and chamber members Sheila Hinson and Lynda Watson. Photo by David Kellin.***