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Date: 12/6/2012 10:16:10 AM

Subject: Request for testimony at a South Carolina confirmation hearing

Attachments: Ltr. to Governor Haley.docx

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Mr. Hunter

As you may know I have been working for the last three years in an effort to show the legislature and governor of South Carolina that it literally is not regulating homeowner insurance. My investigation has shown that the state does not contract with the necessary team of experts to exam the supporting material behind requested rate cases. Furthermore, the state quietly put on the books a law in 2004 that allows insurance companies to get an automatic rate increase if that increase is less than 7%. The state's consumer advocate has informed me that they are flooded with rate increases that are always at 6.9%.

The result of this lack of regulation is the National Association of Insurance Commissioners shows that South Carolina is in the top tier of having the country's most expensive homeowner insurance premiums.

I put together a group of active leaders in the state to both present the problem and offer the solutions necessary to correct the problem. For the last six months we asked for an appointment with the governor to present our case. She has not responded once. Attached is a copy of the letter that we sent her on May 25 of this year.

Two weeks ago she made a press statement that she had selected the next Commissioner of Insurance. His name is Ray Farmer. Mr. Farmer was one of the top officers of the nation's top insurance lobby. In every way he is the wrong person for the job.

Mr. Hunter, your testimony before the confirmation hearing in early January would be invaluable. Would it be possible for you to video tape your response to such a nomination so that we could show it to the Senate Insurance and Banking Committee in early January. At stake is no less than the continued dominance of the nation's lobbying effort in South Carolina. If at all possible please try to get back to me in a few days.

Respectfully,

Daryl A. Ferguson