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Date: 7/7/2016 2:27:17 PM

Subject: Executive Order 2016-16

Attachments: [2016-16 Ordering Cabinet to comply with Hidden Earmark Transparency Directive.pdf](#)

Members of the General Assembly,

Attached is Executive Order 2016-16. The purpose of this executive order is to make the earmarking process in South Carolina's budget more transparent by discouraging the use of "rolled-up" or vaguely named earmarks in the budget. Many of these earmarks are transparent. Others have been made without request or consultation from the agency, and are expressed as line items with vague names and no accompanying instructions as to the intended public use:

Targeted Earmarks		Hidden Earmarks	
State Library – Colleton County Bookmobile	\$ 200,000	Commerce – Economic Development (unknown recipient)	\$ 100,000
CHE – Greenwood Promise Scholarship	\$ 50,000	PRT – Parks Revitalizations (unknown recipient)	\$ 6,375,000

This Executive Order provides for three things:

That Cabinet Agency directors deploy earmarked resources in accordance with the laws governing them, and not supplemental direction provided through informal means by legislators and staff.

That earmarks be subject to grant agreements or contracts that specify the public purpose fulfilled by the earmark.

That the Executive Budget Office, in coordination with all state agencies, compile a list of earmarks and expenditures/allocations made from those earmarked funds annually to make this process more publicly transparent.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Haley

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