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Re: Baker

Answered _____

ALLEN

January 7, 2015

ANDERSON

BENEDICT

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley

CHARLESTON

SOUTHERN

Governor of South Carolina

CLAFLIN

State House

COKER

Dear Governor Haley:

COLUMBIA

Enclosed is the *2014 Annual Report* of the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities. SCICU represents twenty private non-profit colleges and universities. During the past year, more than 33,000 students attended one of our member schools.

COLUMBIA
INTERNATIONAL

CONVERSE

ERSKINE

As we acknowledged in the report, you and the members of the General Assembly have stood by South Carolina's students and families by continuing to fund student aid programs even in the toughest times. In particular, we are extremely appreciative of the 258,784 in lottery funds appropriated to the Higher Education Tuition Grants program last year. Many students would not be able to attend the college of their choice if it were not for your support.

FURMAN

LIMESTONE

MORRIS

NEWBERRY

Scholarships, as you know, are awarded directly to the students and not to a private college or university. Need-based Higher Education Tuition Grants are available to qualified South Carolina high school graduates who attend one of the state's independent institutions of higher learning. For the current academic year, the South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission awarded 13,600 grants averaging approximately \$2,660 per student.

NORTH
GREENVILLE

PRESBYTERIAN

SOUTHERN

WESLEYAN

SPARTANBURG
METHODIST

VOORHEES

WOFFORD

South Carolina residents attending private non-profit colleges and universities also are eligible for one of the state's merit scholarships such as the Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, HOPE and Tuition Assistance. State student financial aid, when combined with scholarships provided by the individual schools, loans, and the earnings of the students and their parents, make it possible for many of our state's citizens to obtain a first-rate, values-based education at an institution that meets their unique intellectual, financial, cultural, academic, and personal needs.

We thank you again for your support and encourage you to continue to invest in the future leaders of our state and in this historic public-private higher education partnership.

Yours truly,

Mike LeFever

Mike LeFever
President & CEO

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{ Copies sent under separate cover

SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES, INC.

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

ALLEN
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BENEDICT
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A VOICE FOR INDEPENDENT HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA