

From: Office of the Governor Site Support
Sent: 7/6/2015 10:04:12 AM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: Flag

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Message:
Dear Governor,

To deny the citizens of South Carolina the right to fly the Confederate flag in the Capital, because of the actions of a single coco-puff nut case is being politically opportunistic. Shame on you.

In 1860, many southerners were just several generations from the forming of the Republic. They accordingly saw themselves primarily as citizens of their respective states. In the North, the hordes of immigrants arriving, only saw themselves as citizens of the United States. Two entirely different views of citizenship. As a boy, I was taught that I had dual citizenship. I was a citizen of my state and a citizen of the USA. Now.....I am a "Resident" of my state. States Rights is a dead issue.

When you look at who were the leaders of the South prior to 1860, it was the planter class. So of course they wrote into any and all documents that slavery was paramount. But the majority of southern whites were subsistence farmers, with little or no stake in slavery. Lincoln chose to make Ft. Sumter a cause for war for a reason. He didn't care very much that the south took over Post Offices, Federal Courts and a multitude of other property. But he maneuvered the South into firing the "first shot" by unnecessarily resupplying Ft. Sumter with arms.

There was no support for a war, on the part of the majority of subsistence farmers in the south, especially to protect slavery. But.....once Lincoln invaded their homeland, HE galvanized those hundreds of thousands of southerners, who fought and died to protect their families and homes from the likes of Sherman.

That struggle, loss and pain is the heritage which white southerners revere and commemorate. And the Flag symbolizes that heritage for the majority of whites.

I will not vote for you again.

Lloyd Paul Ganss
Taylors, South Carolina