

From: David Gambrell (2) <gambrell@charter.net>
To: Lt. Governor's Office LtGov@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 7/27/2018 5:59:14 PM
Subject: Pickens County Border

Dear Lt. Governor Bryant:

Thank you for your responses in the past. I am taking my actions up a step and I am asking for your support and influence to help a bill pass.

Below is a letter that I am sending to all legislators:

Recently a number of Anderson County property owners were informed that their property is in Pickens County. I am one of those property owners. For the past 100 years or more, these properties have been in Anderson County. As for me and many of our neighbors, we moved to Anderson County and the Powdersville area for Anderson County District 1 schools. Our loss will be a forfeiture of the rights held by the property owners for over a 100 years to be citizens of Anderson County. Moreover, we feel that this move will devalue our property significantly. As in my case, it will split our neighborhood into two counties which will cause potential problems with fire and police protection. Additionally, we have to re-register our vehicles, our voter registration, our boats, and other personal properties at our expense. We will also have to re-apply for our homestead exemptions. Some of the property owners also may now pay both Anderson County and Pickens County property taxes due to the property being located in two different counties. It is my understanding that Pickens County could in-fact charge all the property owners for 10 years of back taxes and Anderson County would only have to reimburse the property owners for 2 years taxes that they erroneously charged, per SC state law.

All this can be solved with one simple bill passed by 2/3 majority at the state level. In fact, a similar bill is being worked on by representatives of Horry and Georgetown Counties for the same reason. State Reps. Russell Fry, R-Surfside Beach, and Lee Hewitt, R-Murrells Inlet, are working on this bill (https://www.postandcourier.com/news/horry-or-georgetown-hundreds-of-lots-could-jump-counties-but/article_c200a1a4-291b-11e8-ba02-13e44059d01e.html) and see below.

I am asking you to support a bill to all current Anderson County property owners who are affected by this "annexation due to mapping changes" of the properties into Pickens County to choose which county their property belongs in. This will enable these residents to continue to enjoy the use of the Anderson District 1 school system for future generations and help protect their property values. The tax value to Pickens County is insignificant. Pickens County is pursuing this action because to do otherwise is breaking the law at this time. The only other alternative, outside of litigation, is for property owners to petition to Pickens and Anderson County to be annexed back into Anderson County. This action has to be approved by the legislature.

Your action could remedy this situation. I will work through my local representatives to introduce the bill and ask you to write, enter and support this bill.

Similar legislation that needs passing.

H*5154 (Rat #0278) Joint Resolution, By [Fry](#) and [Hewitt](#)

Summary: Horry and Georgetown Counties, annexation of certain property

A JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT UPON THE RECEIPT OF RESOLUTIONS BY THE GOVERNING BODIES OF HORRY AND GEORGETOWN COUNTIES REQUESTING THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY MISTAKENLY TREATED AS BEING LOCATED WITHIN HORRY COUNTY ALTHOUGH STATUTORILY DEFINED AS BEING LOCATED WITHIN GEORGETOWN COUNTY, THE GOVERNOR SHALL FORM A COMMISSION TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING THAT UPON RECEIPT OF THE COMMISSION'S REPORT, AN ELECTION MUST BE ORDERED REGARDING THE AREA SOUGHT TO BE ANNEXED; PROVIDING THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL TAKE CERTAIN POST-ELECTION ACTIONS; AND PRESERVING CERTAIN MATTERS PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION. - ratified title

R. David Gambrell