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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

January 16, 2016

Dear Governor Haley:

As an adjunct to my business (mortgage banking) I write a weekly letter that goes to about 500 people. The first part is economic news relating to the housing and mortgage industry and the second part is commentary on just about anything, but mostly politics (I am "center-left" and my commentary is fairly balanced – I irritate liberal and conservative readers about equally).

I am writing this missive to thank you for making me look like a genius. This is what I wrote last Monday about the then upcoming State of the Union address:

Somebody to Watch -

The GOP is good at a lot of things but they don't have a great track record lately with their response to the State of the Union speech. In particular - remember Marco Rubio's "lunge" for water (hey - I get it, I've been thirsty too!) or Bobby Jindal's "Mr. Rogers" speech that probably sewered any national ambition he might have had.

I am going to watch the State of the Union - mainly for the pageantry. President Obama in his farewell is going to list a bunch of stuff he wants to do, 95% of which will be blocked by Congress.

But what I am waiting for is the response. It is being delivered by somebody I consider one of the most exciting people in politics today Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina. Gov. Haley came to the country's

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee. The names are listed in alphabetical order, and the addresses are given in full, including street, city, and state.

2. The second part of the document is a list of the names and addresses of the members of the committee who have been elected to the office of chairman and vice-chairman. The names are listed in alphabetical order, and the addresses are given in full, including street, city, and state.

3. The third part of the document is a list of the names and addresses of the members of the committee who have been elected to the office of secretary and treasurer. The names are listed in alphabetical order, and the addresses are given in full, including street, city, and state.

4. The fourth part of the document is a list of the names and addresses of the members of the committee who have been elected to the office of member-at-large. The names are listed in alphabetical order, and the addresses are given in full, including street, city, and state.

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attention because of the horrible tragedy in Charleston when she delivered a moving heartfelt statement and then by her decision to remove the Confederate flag from the capitol.

Make no mistake, Gov. Haley is a conservative Republican. But she is also a practical leader who seems to have a heart, something that often seems missing from that side of the aisle.

Even though I don't agree with her views on many issues I hope Gov. Haley's response is a great success. We need people in US politics who are practical and statesmanlike.

Governor Haley, you hit it out of the park! That was probably the best SOTU response ever, and as a result people are talking about it more than about the "main event".

What I am going to write Monday is that the most interesting person in the 2016 Presidential race is not even a candidate, Gov. Nikki Haley.

As I look with dismay at the Republican group running for the nomination, I shudder. In fact I mentioned in a previous letter the possibility of a "draft Romney" movement. The Democratic field isn't much better.

So while people are starting to use your name in the same sentence as "vice president" I think they should set their sights higher. I think you may be the person to restore sanity to this race. I know it is late, but I would encourage you to consider a run for President. If you were to make that announcement I think the sigh of relief from our body politic would be audible around the world.

Perhaps you think it isn't your time yet, but it is exactly your time. As I said in my letter I don't agree with your views on many issues but I have so much respect for your integrity and your abilities that I would be proud to work for your nomination and election here in Arizona and around the country.

This is not far-fetched. Please consider it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robb Gordon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robb Gordon

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