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Draft press release, subject to change. Give me a call if you have any issues. - JT



## NIKKI R. HALEY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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For immediate release

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### **Gov. Nikki Haley Signs H. 3027 - Military Homeowner Protection Act Of 2014** *Bill Provides Property Tax Relief to Active Duty Military Men And Women*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – Governor Nikki Haley today signed H. 3027, the Military Homeowner Protection Act of 2014. Sponsored by Representative Murrell Smith (R – Sumter, District 67), this bill provides property tax relief to active duty military men and women in South Carolina.

Currently, active duty soldiers are eligible for the 4% property tax assessment if they are stationed in South Carolina. H. 3027 allows military members to retain that assessment if they receive a permanent change of station as long as they remain on active duty and regardless of any rental income they receive.

“Our military men and women are one of our state’s biggest assets and it’s only right that we provided them with the kind of common sense tax relief that works to lessen the burden of their service for them and their families,” said Gov. Haley. “I thank Representative Murrell Smith for his leadership on this issue and encourage our citizens on active duty to take advantage of this opportunity.”

[Smith]

#### **H. 3027 Background –**

- ☐ H. 3027 limits eligibility to one property in the state unless the permanent change of station results in the purchase of a residence elsewhere in the state and the first residence remains on the market for sale. The double exemption may only be claimed for two years.
- ☐ The United States Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) estimates that nearly 500 soldiers would be eligible for this exemption immediately, for a statewide property tax reduction of \$350,000.

☐ Passed Senate (41-0), House (77-0).

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