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December 10, 2015

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

Re: Farmers requesting recoupment

Dear Governor Haley:

I am on Orangeburg City Council and we had a joint Council meeting with the County of Orangeburg Council on December 9, 2015. County Councilman Harry Wimberly presented a Petition for all County and City Council members to sign requesting money from the State and/or Federal Government for crops damaged by the recent flood. I refused to sign the Petition and the majority of members that signed it had no idea what they were signing.

I agree whole heartedly with the statement that you made on WIS-TV on Tuesday afternoon. I am an attorney, as well as on City Council, and know that farmers have a hard time. However, the same time they are given the opportunity to take out crop insurance which most of them do and some are even paid by the Federal Government not to plant crops. I personally feel farming is like any other private business, if the farmer wants to take a gamble and under insure his crops and it turns out he didn't carry enough insurance or something out of the ordinary happens, it's a risk he chose to take. I personally don't think they should be entitled to any further compensation for taking risks. If Mr. Wimberly and the farmers around here took that risk or were underinsured, I concur with your position. If I chose in the practice of law not to carry malpractice insurance and I am sued by one of my clients, that's the risk I took which I would certainly never do.

In any event, I stand with you and ask you to "hold the line" on your position with reference to this situation.

Very truly yours,



Charles B. Barnwell, Jr.

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