



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

November 13, 2015

Director Marina Lao
Office of Policy Planning
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20580

Dear Director Lao,

It is my understanding that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has a longstanding position that Certificate of Need (CON) laws should be repealed because they create regulatory barriers that stifle competition in the healthcare industry and ultimately harm consumers. I agree with this position and support a complete repeal of CON laws in South Carolina.

During last year's legislative session, several Representatives sponsored South Carolina House Bill 3250 which, if passed without further amendment, would narrow the application of and ultimately repeal South Carolina's CON law effective January 1, 2018. This bill passed out of the South Carolina House of Representatives during last legislative session and is currently pending in the South Carolina Senate. South Carolina's General Assembly will resume its two-year session in January when presumably it will continue its deliberation of House Bill 3250.

I have reviewed the FTC's letter dated July 10, 2015, to North Carolina offering comment on proposed amendments to North Carolina's CON law. I am respectfully requesting your office conduct a similar review of South Carolina House Bill 3250 and offer comment. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of this bill.

Please let me know if you need anything further from my office. God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/hp

Enclosure