

Sagen Bishop
1150 Campus Dr.
Suite K
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Thursday, February 26, 2015

Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Nikki R. Haley:

My name is Sagen Bishop I am a Senior Early Childhood Education student who currently attends South Carolina State University. I'm writing you in hopes that you will consider of all the students who attend this university, each and every one of our faces and families and each and every one of our lives. This university provided me the opportunity to advance in life. I will be the first in my family to obtain a degree, I'm not the perfect student but I'm so much better, more professional, and have learned some much about life, history, and how to educate children through my matriculation here at South Carolina State University. Last semester I made straight A's I owe that to my wonderful; professors for teaching me with passion, and to my bulldog family who stayed up with me to make sure I did my best.

Closing down this university will make it even harder for us to move forward and I really hope that your intentions are in favor of giving us the best chance to get an education and be successful. The odds are already against us. However, it is obvious that we are fighting the odds because we are trying to obtain higher education. Don't put another barrier in our way. Please don't kick us while we are trying to get up, it's not the students' fault; we had nothing to do with the financial troubles that are upon our university. Is it fair to punish us? To separate us from our university that has become our history, culture, and home? Tear us away from our wonderful professors and our bulldog family? I can't see how that is fair.

I constantly hear that we only have ourselves, that no one is looking out for us, and that the government doesn't want us to move forward. I thought that's what you were here for, to look out for us. I'm asking you to prove us wrong show that you care for students who may not look like you, or come from the same background.

I started this journey at SC State University, and I really want to be able to graduate with that wonderful name, that holds so much power and value on my Bachelor's Degree. We don't have much; education is the only thing that moves us forward. I'm beseeching you on behalf of my fellow students, don't push us back. Thank you for choosing to be someone who is on our side.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sagen Bishop', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sagen Bishop
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