

Nicole Priester, Scheduler
Office of Governor Nikki Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Ms. Florence P. Belser, Chairperson
Girls State Committee
20 N. Dukes Street
Summerton, SC 29148



**The American Legion
Palmetto Boys State**

Brian M. Gibbons
P.O. Drawer 580
Chester, SC 29706
803-581-4115



February 12, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Office of Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

Palmetto Boys State and Palmetto Girls State will be held the week of June 7, 2015. Boys State will be in Anderson on the Anderson University campus while Girls State will be in Clinton on the Presbyterian College campus. On Friday, June 12, 2015, we intend to travel to join Girls State in Columbia for a parade down Main Street in order to inaugurate the governors and all other constitutional officers of both programs.

Traditionally, all nine State Constitutional Officers have escorted their counterparts down the steps of the Capitol. The Constitutional Officers meet in the rotunda of the Capital at 10:45 a.m. and the inauguration ceremony begins at 11:00. We would be most appreciative if you would be the keynote speaker at the inauguration.

There will be approximately 1000 Boys Staters and 700 Girls Staters in attendance. All are rising seniors in high school from all around the state and have been selected on their leadership potential. Additionally, local television stations and newspaper staffs have been present in the past with broad, statewide coverage on the evening news.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies which normally occurs around 11:45, we arrange a tour of the Capitol which includes a walkthrough of both the Lt. Governor and Governor's offices on the lower level. In the past, Governors have remained to shake hands with the Boys Staters as they pass through your office, but of course, that is not necessary if your schedule does not permit.

Between 12:30 and 1:30, we will be having lunch with Girls State at the Horseshoe on the USC campus. We would love for you and your family to join us if possible, and we are also inviting all of the other Constitutional Officers. We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us that day.

Both Florence Belser, the Director of Palmetto Girls State, and I look forward to hearing from either you or someone from your staff as soon as feasibly possible in order that we can finalize our schedule. I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian M. Gibbons".

Brian M. Gibbons
Program Coordinator

BMG/mro

Cc: Ms. Nicole Priester
Ms. Florence Belser