



# House of Representatives

State of South Carolina

**Grady A. Brown**

District No. 50 Kershaw, Lee & Sumter Counties  
420 S. Main Street  
Bishopville, SC 29010

304-B Blatt Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

December 8, 2015

Tel. (803) 734-2934  
Fax (803) 734-2925

**Committees:**

Labor, Commerce and Industry, 1<sup>st</sup> V.C.  
Rules

**The Honorable Nikki R. Haley**  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I oppose your decision to not support our state's farmers, and am disappointed in your lack of compassion toward an industry that does so much good for our great state. Agriculture has been struck by not just one natural disaster this year, but a multitude.

South Carolina agriculture and forestry have an annual economic impact of \$41.7 billion and support 212,000 jobs in our state. You are aware of this because you helped unveil the results of the study releasing these numbers in February. How can you simply ignore an industry that has this large of an impact on South Carolina?

You said, "Our farmers know we continue to have their backs, and we are going to keep South Carolina on the move." Why don't you have their backs now?

South Carolina farmers are in dire need of assistance. Even with crop insurance coverage, countless farmers in our state are still threatened by possible bankruptcy. Not only are farmers not able to pay their bills now, but they will not have money to buy crops to plant in the spring.

This means millions of dollars lost, not only for these farmers, but South Carolina's economy. This means food will no longer be produced in our state, and we will have to look to other states to support us. This means the end of many family farms in our state.

It is clear that farmers need assistance. It is also clear that the agricultural industry does not work like many other industries. Farmers cannot pick up and move to a new field like a small business owner can do.

South Carolina farmers need help and they need it now.

I ask that you reconsider your position on this issue, and do what is right. Give our farmers the assistance they deserve.

With warmest regards, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grady A. Brown", written in a cursive style.

Grady A. Brown