



December 17, 2015

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

Re: Agricultural Flood Relief

Dear Governor Haley:

South Carolina's farming communities and farmers have been especially hard hit after the severe rains and flooding that began October 1, 2015. On December 10, 2015, the membership of the Lower Savannah Council of Governments **unanimously** voted to request you to reconsider your position on seeking additional federal assistance for crop losses by our South Carolina farmers.

Our membership understands that additional funding of up to \$376 million from federal sources may be available for agricultural losses in our state. Being from a rural area, you surely can understand the impact such relief could have on our farm families and agri-business community.

South Carolina's legislative delegation has indicated a willingness to actively pursue additional relief if requested by you to do so. Crop damage and financial loss in the affected areas are seriously damaging the economic well being of our rural communities. Therefore, additional assistance (federal and/or state) to address the devastation is urgently needed and would be greatly appreciated by our struggling agri-business sector.

Sincerely,

R. Keith Sloan
Chairman
Lower Savannah Council of Governments