

Mr. Justin K. Durham
108F Riverstone Court
Easley, SC 29640
February 27, 2015

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

Dear Governor Haley:

I am a life-long citizen of Pickens County, South Carolina. I was born and raised in the upstate, and after a four year tour in the United States Army, I returned with my wife Hollie and our 2 year old son Riley in April, 2014. I am a 1st shift supervisor at the TTI production plant in Pickens, and I am a faithful member of Rock Springs Baptist Church in Easley, SC, where Dr. David Gallamore is the Pastor. He is a great pastor who asks his members to pray for our elected officials.

I want to say, first of all, that I appreciate your conservative leadership in our state. I am a conservative Republican, and I appreciate the way that you actually lead in a day when our nation's leadership is more often present on the golf-course or basketball court than he is in the Oval Office.

I wanted to write you about an issue that I have seen develop over the past several years in my district, and some of the surrounding counties that I travel through. I know that you are very job-conscious. I have admired the way that you have brought plants into our state. The new Michelin plant in Anderson and the Taylormade plant in Liberty have really boosted the local economy, along with the job growth at plants like BMW in Greenville. I would like to let you know, however, that there are several plants around this area that have shut down or moved to China. They are sitting vacant when they could be used to put more people to work if they could be sold to a good company who could come in and start production in them. I believe that a new plant in Pickens County or one of the nearby counties would help the economy to thrive and would put a lot of jobless people back to work. This would get them off of government assistance, as well, so it would help two aspects of economic recovery.

I'm sure that you're doing everything you can to see jobs move into our state, but it really breaks my heart to see these plants that are sitting vacant and running down. To imagine that they used to be thriving cotton mills and bustling production facilities makes a good citizen wish for new businesses to move into them once again.

Governor Nikki R. Haley

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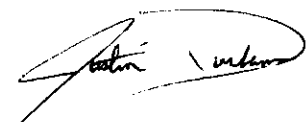
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I would appreciate anything you could do to bring jobs back to my county. We are a solid, conservative county, and I know that you have a strong base of support here. There are good people in this district who would much rather have a job to work than have to depend on government assistance for their next meal.

My wife and I had the opportunity to hear you speak at the Anderson Civic Center last year at Congressman Jeff Duncan's bar-b-que. I enjoyed your remarks, and wish that I had been able to meet you while I was there. My wife, who is not an extremely political person, admires your leadership as well. She was so impressed with you in Anderson, in fact, that she began to research you and your political view points. She is extremely pro-life, and it was encouraging to her to hear of a lady in a high-level political office who feels the same way!

Lastly, I just want you to know that you are in my daily prayers as are our other elected officials. I pray that God will give you wisdom to make the tough decisions, and grace to handle the problems that pass across your desk on a day-to-day basis. I also pray that God will bless you and your family. Thanks for the time you took to read my letter, and I hope to receive a reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin K. Durham", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Justin K. Durham