

From: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>
To: Baker, JoshJoshBaker@gov.sc.gov
Date: 4/3/2015 12:25:09 PM
Subject: Re: SOS Language

Appreciate it.

On Apr 3, 2015, at 12:19 PM, Baker, Josh <JoshBaker@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Some have advocated raising the state gas tax. Yes, we do have the third-lowest gas tax in America. Gas prices are now down to their lowest level since 2009. Non-South Carolinians who visit our state would pay a portion of the tax. And we would boost the revenue stream that is dedicated to improving our roads and highways.

But there are also major problems with it. We have not gotten to where we are as a state, with our strengthening and growing economy, by raising taxes. Quite the opposite. If all we do is increase taxes, whether it's the gas tax, or some other tax, we will hurt our citizens, we will discourage job creators, and we will dampen our economy. As I've said many times, I will veto any straight-up increase in the gas tax. That's just not going to happen while I'm governor. It's the wrong thing for South Carolina.