

From:

To:

Date: 9/1/2016 12:24:18 PM

Subject:

Dear Friends,

I want to thank the Board of Directors and staff and, most importantly, the member businesses of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce for recognizing the progress Team South Carolina has made over the last five years.

The story of our last five years is one we're sharing with people across the country and across the world: more than 80,000 jobs announced for 45 of 46 counties, more than \$17 billion in investment, more of our people working than ever before and historic lows in unemployment.

We build planes with Boeing. We build cars with BMW, Mercedes-Benz, and now Volvo. We have five – yes, five – worldwide tire companies with Michelin, Bridgestone, Continental, Giti Tire and now Trelleborg. The first American-made flat screen televisions? You'll find them in rural Winnsboro, South Carolina, with Element Electronics.

People are taking notice of our state – South Carolina is on the move.

One of my predecessors, Governor Carroll Campbell, used to say, when you find a person a job, you take care of a family. It shouldn't surprise anyone that, when we work together with business leaders like you, we can lead the way in job growth and innovation, and take care of a lot of families.

That's part of what makes us strong, proud, unified and resourceful as a state.

And that South Carolina spirit is what brought us together when tragedy and hardship visited us. This year, we've seen challenges that could have divided us. We saw it happen in other parts of the country. But not in South Carolina.

The strength and grace of the families who lost those they loved at Mother Emanuel, and the resilience of communities hit hardest by unprecedented flooding, has inspired us, and brought us together. We're seeing neighbors helping neighbors, the South Carolina way.

As we lift each other up, we're laying the foundation we need to move forward, together.

I couldn't be prouder of South Carolina's story. I couldn't be more optimistic about South Carolina's future. If we continue working together – investing in our students, our workforce, our businesses – there's no limit to what we can achieve. And we'll have so much success more to celebrate with our people.

God bless,

Nikki R. Haley

Governor of South Carolina