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FOR

IMMEDIATE

RELEASE

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Speaker Lucas: "Evil Will Not Prevail or Divide Us" Tragedy has reignited discussion on sensitive issue

(Columbia, SC) – House [Speaker Jay Lucas](#) (District 65-Darlington) issued the following statement in regards to the confederate flag memorial.

"In my time as Speaker, the South Carolina House has refused to shy away from important, tough issues. We instead have faced them head on with thorough study and debate.

"Last week's terrorizing act of violence shook the very core of every South Carolinian. We have shown that during times of adversity, our love and support for each other knows no bounds. The forgiveness offered by the nine innocent victims' families is proof that evil will not prevail or divide us.

"The intense and difficult debate that took place in 2000 over the confederate soldier flag was ultimately resolved by compromise. Wednesday's unspeakable tragedy has reignited a discussion on this sensitive issue that holds a long and complicated history in the Palmetto State. Moving South Carolina forward from this terrible tragedy requires a swift resolution of this issue."

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