

204 Apple Oak Lane
Hopkins, SC 29061

July 14, 2015

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

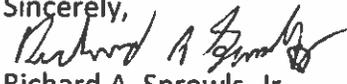
Dear Governor Haley;

As I'm sure you are aware, the African American Monument on the South Carolina State House grounds was erected in 2001 as part of a bi-partisan compromise reached in 2000 to move the Confederate battle flag from the State House dome and place it at the Confederate Soldier's Monument. Given the recent outcry and successful legislation to remove the battle flag from the State House grounds completely, the people of South Carolina view this as a reneging of the 2000 compromise. Therefore, the people of South Carolina implore you to support and sign legislation calling for the removal of the African American Monument from the State House grounds.

The battle flag, by law has been removed due to it being offensive to the African American community by invoking upon that community, reminders of the dark history of slavery. To the same point, the African American Monument depicts slave ships, mistreatment and words such as "segregation" and "Jim Crow". This being the case, it is undeniable that this monument can and does serve to invoke in the white community feelings of shame, humiliation and is offense, serving as a constant reminder of the dark history of slavery. Therefore, we the people of South Carolina and citizens the world over ask you and the Legislature of South Carolina to order the removal of this monument from State Grounds.

Since various events that occurred in the history of the State of South Carolina are offensive to certain segments of the population, perhaps the grounds of the State House, which belongs to ALL of the people of South Carolina, is not the appropriate place to memorialize any of these events. Therefore, as one of your constituents, I urge you to support and sign legislation which will move the African American Monument to the State Museum where such memorials belong.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Sprowls, Jr.

