

From: LeMoine, Leigh
To: Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 3/20/2013 9:14:42 PM
Subject: RE: Possible Meeting with Governor Haley

Yes, I think so - she is meeting with a group at 10:00 am. She'll have been at the office since 9:15 AM. Thanks. Leigh

-----Original Message-----

From: Soura, Christian
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 9:14 PM
To: LeMoine, Leigh
Subject: Re: Possible Meeting with Governor Haley

If they're flexible on time, then I can meet with them - I need to get with her first in order to confirm her position, though. You think that 10:30 slot you gave me on education's pretty firm?

CLS

----- Original Message -----

From: LeMoine, Leigh
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 09:04 PM
To: Soura, Christian
Subject: FW: Possible Meeting with Governor Haley

N's schedule is just too tight tomorrow to do this meeting. Would you be the appropriate person to offer to meet on the legislation?

-----Original Message-----

From: Stirling, Bryan
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 11:51 AM
To: LeMoine, Leigh
Subject: Fw: Possible Meeting with Governor Haley

----- Original Message -----

From: Anna Murray [mailto:anna.murray@me.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 11:50 AM
To: Stirling, Bryan
Subject: Possible Meeting with Governor Haley

Bryan,

We just spoke on the phone and you asked me to send you an e-mail regarding a possible meeting

with Governor Haley this Thursday.

As we discussed, a group of about 5 women from Ashley Hall School in Charleston is coming to Columbia Thursday to testify in the House Subcommittee hearings on H. 3560 (companion bill S. 413). This pending legislation is the result of a bipartisan effort following the near tragedy at Ashley Hall on February 4, 2013 when Alice Boland, a woman with a history of court ordered committals and diagnosed severe mental illness in both state and federal courts, tried but failed to shoot and kill several teachers/administrators as well as a number of students on the sidewalk outside our campus. Ms Boland purchased the gun legally in a Walterboro gun shop three days before the incident. A group of over 80 Ashley Hall parents sent a letter to 12 SC legislators asking that something be done to stop this from happening again. The pending legislation is a result of both our efforts and the concurrent desire on the part of legislators on both sides of the aisle to make sure that SC residents with a documented history of severe mental illness and violence cannot purchase firearms. The sponsors of the bill have done a great job keeping the bills very narrow and focused simply on SC starting to report those who are already prohibited by SC from purchasing firearms to the NICS/FBI database. The three of us leading the effort (on behalf of the group of over 80 Ashley Hall parents) have met with representatives from just about every department or organization around the state (i.e.: DHS, Law Enforcement, Judges) who has a stake in the proposed legislation and we have been encouraged that almost everyone seems to have the same goal and the process has produced productive, reasonable conversations. It is important that we protect both innocent victims like schoolchildren from those who are both severely mentally ill and violent, but it is equally as important that we protect those who are severely mentally ill from themselves and from being able to purchase firearms when they are not sane. As we have continued to advocate and to gather information, it seems that most everyone agrees this is simple.

We hope we can spend a few minutes with Governor Haley to say hello and to gain any insight or opinion she may have on the pending legislation, albeit with the full understanding that pending bills can change through the legislative process. We will have traveling with us the school administrator and also the upper school teacher who were on the sidewalk when this incident occurred and who, if not for the fact that Ms Boland did not know how to chamber a bullet, would have died that day. They have met with a number of legislators on a previous trip and tell a compelling and very private story of what actually happened, a story they have refrained from speaking about in the media to protect the school and the girls who experienced this horrific trauma.

The House subcommittee hearing is scheduled for 9:00 am Thursday, March 21st. We can be flexible any time (other than during this meeting) in order to work within the Governor's schedule which I understand is tight that day. We hope since we will be there with the women who would have been the victims, that we might be able to see her even if just for a brief time.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you or the scheduler.

Anna Murray