

Title: **Farm bill veto**
 Author:
 Size: 12.86 column inches
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Farm bill veto

South Carolina's farmers, especially those in the lower half of the state, suffered immeasurably last October when torrential rains washed out their crops. Farmers lost \$500 million in what became known as a "thousand-year" flood that dumped more than two feet of rain on parts of the state.

Thanks to the vision of the South Carolina Legislature, that aid is on its way. Both the House and Senate voted overwhelmingly to override Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of the aid package. (The Senate voted 39-3 and the House voted 112-2.) If ever there was an appropriate time for the state to step in and offer those farmers relief, this is it. After all, agriculture is among the top industries in South Carolina, and failure to lend aid after a once-a-millennium disaster would have been a failure of government. ...

With all due respect to the Governor's Office and Gov. Haley, cheerleading from the halls of government would have done very little to help the state's farmers who suffered an aggregate \$376 million in crop losses alone during last year's floods.

Yes, we should treat everyone fairly. Haley should have been eager to help these farmers deal with these unprecedented losses. Everyone would understand, then, if some other business sector suffers a catastrophe and the state steps in to mitigate those losses to preserve jobs and revenue.

– Greenville News

Title: **Bathroom bill's main problem has nothing to do with bathrooms**
 Author:
 Size: 63.55 column inches
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CINDI ROSS SCOPPE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
THE STATE

Bathroom bill's main problem has nothing to do with bathrooms

I NEVER BOTHERED to read Sen. Lee Bright's bathroom bill. I knew the Senate would never debate it, much less pass it, because of what I call the single-senator veto: Senate rules allow a single senator to prevent so much as a debate on a bill unless at least a majority of senators vote to give it one of the coveted debate slots on the Senate calendar.

On Friday, I read Sen. Larry Grooms' bathroom bill, because it is a whole different animal, with a whole different set of rules.

Those different rules are throwbacks to legislators' 19th century tradition of running their home counties from Columbia, and they explain why we are again talking about which bathrooms, locker rooms and showers transgendered students can use, nearly a month after we thought that debate was over.

There are legitimate questions about whether a federal law passed in 1972 really requires pubescent girls to share a locker room with children who think they are girls but who were born as — and might still have the genitalia of — boys. But that is a matter that ultimately will be settled by the courts.

But whether or not we think

our Legislature ought to volunteer to lose \$870 million a year in federal funding in the event that the courts agree with the Obama administration's aggressive interpretation of the law, we all ought to agree that *a couple of obscure legislators* should not be able to make that decision for the entire state.

If we could agree on that, then maybe we could make some headway on a matter that has a much greater impact on our schools than how they deal with societal norms about gender and sexuality that are changing at breathtaking speed.

Mr. Grooms' bill to require students to use the bathroom that corresponds to their gender at birth, S.1306, is what's called a local bill, in this case a bill that applies only to Berkeley County.

Local bills don't go to committee, so they don't get the vetting that other bills do; only senators who represent the affected county vote on them. It's not uncommon for a local bill to be introduced on a Tuesday, given second reading on Wednesday and third reading on Thursday, repeat the process in the other body and land on the governor's desk the following week.

But this bill is different. North

Carolina's experience with its own bathroom bill freaked out our socially conservative legislators and business leaders and governor so much that after defeating Mr. Bright's bathroom bill, they rallied again on Thursday to stop Mr. Grooms' bill.

That's much more difficult to do. It used to be Senate tradition that kept senators from other counties from voting on local bills. But a few years ago the Senate amended its rules to actually prohibit those outside votes. Because Senate districts cross county lines, senators cast weighted votes that reflect the portion of the county's population they represent. Mr. Grooms represents more than half the voters in Berkeley County, so he can pass pretty much any local bill he wants. Normally, the other four senators who represent part of the county can't even slow him down for more than 15 minutes — the maximum time the Senate allows opponents to speak against a local bill.

Outside senators were able to slow down Mr. Grooms on Thursday by adjourning for the week — thereby relinquishing hours of time they could have debated bills that desperately need debate as the legislative

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session winds down. They will be hard-pressed to do the same on Tuesday.

Ultimately, the bill is unlikely to become law, because even if the House passes it — and it's not clear that Berkeley County House members are interested in it — Gov. Nikki Haley is likely to veto it. And when a vetoed local bill returns to the Legislature, the rules change. In 2011 the Supreme Court ruled that a veto is a veto, and it takes two-thirds of the membership of each body — not just two-thirds of those voting — to override. So now the entire Senate and House routinely vote with the local legislators to override the veto. But they don't have to.

The Legislature occasionally finds a single-county bill so intolerable that it lets it die. And from this occasional exercise of representative democracy I have developed a fantasy — that one day, one bill will be so awful that lawmakers will come to their senses. They will not just kill that one bill; they will end the whole, antiquated practice.

Most single-county laws are unconstitutional, although that

doesn't stop legislators from passing them. Single-county school laws are worse than unconstitutional. They are holding our state back. They are perpetuating the problems that have prevented our Legislature from providing a decent education to all children in our state.

Single-county school laws buttress our practice of writing different rules for different districts. They allow legislators to fixate on the minutia of their local school districts and craft discrete, expedient solutions for their problems rather than focusing on ways to improve all of our schools. In so doing, they discourage the Legislature from making the reforms we need to improve public education for all children. And that does more damage than any bathroom policy — from the left or the right — ever will.

Ms. Scoppe can be reached at cscoppe@thestate.com or at (803) 771-8571.

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LOCAL BILLS ARE

**THROWBACKS TO
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Title: **Gov. Haley has shown no compassion for our farmers**

Author:

Size: 19.37 column inches

Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Gov. Haley has shown no compassion for our farmers

Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of the farmers' aid bill should disturb all South Carolinians who care about our farmers. Most of us are dependent on farmers for our daily bread. As a bumper sticker says: "No farms, no food."

Yet Haley, a Republican, has shown no compassion for farmers who are in distress through no fault of their own.

Sadly, Gov. Haley seems unable to make a distinction between farmers who grow our food and who are at the mercy of the weather, and other groups

seeking help from the government.

The Republican Party is not what it used to be; nor are many politicians who call themselves "conservative."

If our government can't help people in need, what good is it?

As a Republican state senator once declared, "Sometimes it is necessary to put our principles aside and do what's right." Thanks to the Legislature for overriding the governor's ill-advised veto.

– Anthony J. DiStefano
Aiken



Title: **Women with dense breasts more at risk for breast cancer**
 Author: BY STEPHANIE TURNER sturner@aikenstandard.com
 Size: 127.56 column inches
 Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



Women with dense breasts more at risk for breast cancer

BY STEPHANIE TURNER

sturner@aikenstandard.com

On May 12, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley signed Hope's Law.

The law requires "mammogram providers to provide a mammogram report to patients about breast density and to require these providers to include a conspicuous notice when a mammogram shows the presence of dense breast tissue," as stated on the South Carolina Legislature's website.

South Carolina is not the first state to sign such a law, according to the American College of Radiology.

"This notification is meant to facilitate communication between a woman and her doctor, to discuss any risk factors that might call for additional testing, such as an ultrasound or MRI," said Lisa Hill, a mammography supervisor with Aiken Regional Medical Centers.

What is breast density?

A woman's breast contains fatty tissue and other tissue, such as fibrous and glandular tissue, according to Dr. Joshua Rafoth, a radiologist with Brown & Radiology Associates and the medical director of

University Hospital's Breast Health Imaging Center.

Having a dense breast means the woman has more fibrous and glandular tissue than fatty tissue, according to Hill.

A way to see if a female patient has a dense breast is through a mammogram, or a breast X-ray exam.

"When viewed on a mammogram, women with dense breasts have more dense tissue than fatty tissue," states the Mayo Clinic. "On a mammogram, nondense breast tissue appears dark and transparent. Dense breast tissue appears as a solid

white area on a mammogram, which makes it difficult to see through."

There is no concrete reason why some women develop dense breast tissue. However, women who are in their 40s and 50s, are premenopausal and/or taking hormone therapy for menopause might be more likely to have dense breasts, according to the Mayo Clinic.

"We can't really predict a woman's breast density ... until we do a mammogram," Rafoth said.

Men do not get dense breasts, according to the American Cancer

Society.

Breast density, breast cancer

High breast density is a risk factor for breast cancer, according to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America.

Other risk factors for breast cancer include aging, having a family history of breast cancer, being obese and heavy drinking.

Early detection is key to fighting breast cancer, according to the American Cancer Society.

"From the time that breast tissue starts to develop, ... ladies need to be taught to examine their breast tissue," said Carolyn Cook, breast health nurse navigator with Aiken Regional.

Signs can include changes in how the breast or nipple feels or looks, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

"Most often, these symptoms are not due to cancer, but any breast cancer symptom you notice should be investigated as soon as it is discovered," the foundation further states.

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Mammograms, breast cancer

A mammogram is one way breast cancer is detected.

"A lot of ladies do not realize that they can schedule their own (screening or routine) mammogram without a doctor's order," Cook said. "They do have to have a doctor that they've seen within the past year that the report can go to."

The American Cancer Society states that a woman should be given the option to start getting her annual breast cancer screening between the ages of 40 and 44.

A woman should start her annual mammogram at the age of 45 and can be seen every two years starting at the age of 55.

A woman at risk for breast cancer may be able to get a mammogram at an earlier age, Hill said.

"If you have a palpable lump or something ... and are under 30, we start with an ultrasound," Hill said. "You don't want to radiate the breast, ... and if the radiologist still has questions, they decide, if you are under the age of 30, if you need the mammogram."

Men at risk for breast cancer may also get a mammogram done, ac-

cording to the American Cancer Society.

Treatment for breast cancer depends on the patient but can include surgery, radiation and/or chemotherapy, Cook said.

For more information on breast density or breast cancer, visit www.mayoclinic.org, www.nationalbreastcancer.org, www.cancer.org or www.cancercenter.com.

Stephanie Turner graduated from Valdosta State University in 2012. She then signed on with the *Aiken Standard*, where she is now the features reporter.

Two views of breast cancer

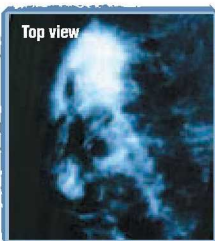
A study has found that MRI discovers breast cancers that mammograms miss, suggesting that women who are at high risk for the disease should be screened by both methods.

Mammogram

Each breast is flattened so the maximum amount of tissue can be imaged, then X-rays are taken



The X-ray above shows dense, patchy areas but no abnormality



- Can show changes in breast tissue before they can be felt
- Reveals tiny calcium deposits that can be an early sign of breast cancer
- Relatively inexpensive

MRI

Cross-section image of the breast is taken, using a magnetic field and radio waves



- With an injection of the chemical gadolinium to create contrast, can find cancers otherwise overlooked
- Does not show calcium deposits
- Expensive

Above scan of the same breast shows two separate areas of abnormality, which were diagnosed as breast cancer

© 2007 MCT
Graphic: Pat Carr,
Lee Hulteng

Source: New England
Journal of Medicine, U.S.
National Cancer Institute,
American Cancer Society,
breastcancer.org

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STAFF PHOTO BY STEPHANIE TURNER

Lisa Hill, a mammography supervisor with Aiken Regional Medical Centers, explains how a digital mammogram machine works at the Women's Breast Health & Imaging Center at Aiken Regional.

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 Author: BY JAMIE SELF jself@thestate.com
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ANALYSIS

Some say Trump should pick Scott

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Haley touts "New South" elsewhere while S.C. farmers cause a row

Slain senator's portrait to be unveiled during Day of Remembrance

BY JAMIE SELF
 jself@thestate.com
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Donald Trump could find a South Carolina fix for his "serious demographic challenge," pundits say.

Yes, Gov. Nikki Haley, South Carolina's first Indian-American and first female governor, voluntarily removed

herself from the running to be Donald Trump's running mate after the New York billionaire became the presumptive GOP presidential nominee. (Still, a Rasmussen poll taken about a week after Haley bowed out showed that 9 percent of GOP voters wanted her in the VP spot anyway.) Now,

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SCOTT

consensus builder," Byars said. "He's very well respected and very well liked. ... If he were to get asked, I'm sure he would give it serious consideration."

Byars said he was surprised Scott's name hasn't come up sooner, but that's likely because the senator

however, another prominent S.C. Republican's name has come up.

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-North Charleston, would be "one of the few plausible picks," according to a "Veepstakes" report brought to Rasmussen by the prognosticators from Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball.

As the first African-American U.S. senator from the South since Reconstruction, Scott could help Trump address his "serious demographic challenge owing to his awful ratings among non-white voters, who could make up 30 percent or so of the electorate in 2016,"

the Crystal Ballers from the University of Virginia wrote.

With U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio out of the picture, "there aren't many options to counter this problem for Trump, even to the limited extent that a running mate could address that issue."

Whether Scott would accept a Trump offer is another question.

Asked late Friday, Scott's campaign spokesperson said the senator is focused only on representing S.C. residents and winning re-election this fall.

But, in February, Scott criticized Trump for not

immediately condemning the Ku Klux Klan and David Duke after the white supremacist and former KKK grand wizard endorsed him.

If Scott could overlook that — and any other follies the once-Rubio enthusiast sees in the presumptive nominee — Trump would be lucky to have Scott as a running mate, said Columbia GOP political consultant Luke Byars, who has done some fundraising work for the senator.

"He's developed a reputation outside of South Carolina as a bridge builder and a conservative

SEE SCOTT, 4A

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HALEY HEADS FOR HIGHER GROUND

Republican Haley's latest political battleship may have sunk swiftly —

and overwhelmingly — last week, when the GOP-controlled Legislature deep-sixed her veto of \$40 million in flood aid to farmers who lost crops in October's historic torments.

But Haley still has plenty of political capital — enough to lift her up and

away from her critics in South Carolina's waterlogged peanut-farmer gallery.

Last Tuesday, Haley campaigned in Richmond alongside Virginia GOP gubernatorial candidate Ed Gillespie, a former Republican National Committee chairman who has helped



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recruit minorities to run down ballot. The previous Friday, Haley spoke on the “New South” at Tennessee Republicans’ annual dinner in Nashville.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On Wednesday, the S.C. Legislative Black Caucus is holding a “Day of Remembrance, A Day of Celebration” at the Statehouse — less than a month before the first anniversary of a gunman entering

Charleston’s Emanuel AME Church and slaying nine African-American parishioners.

The event starts with a prayer meeting under the dome at 2 p.m., following the election of a new state

Supreme Court chief justice. At 4 p.m., a portrait of Democratic state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, a pastor who was slain while leading a Bible study at his church, will be unveiled.

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S.C. farm aid isn't a 'bailout' for farmers

Gov. Nikki Haley might have been right when she said that South Carolina wouldn't "bail out" farmers devastated by October's flood.

What the General Assembly approved, over her objection, was not a bailout but \$40 million in much-needed disaster relief for that vital economic mainstay.

By a vote of 39-3 in the Senate last Wednesday and 112-2 vote in the House last Tuesday, legislators overrode Haley's veto. That means farmers can apply for grants of up to \$100,000 (no more than 20 percent of a farmer's total loss) to buy seed and fertilizer and get back on their feet after their fields were flooded by up to 2 feet of water.

The Legislature made the right move for farmers, who play a key role in the well-being of the state and its residents.

The only senators voting not to override at Wednesday's session were Republicans Lee Bright, Tom Davis and Larry Grooms. Grooms, R-Daniel Island, said he opposed the bill over concerns about the mechanism for administering the money.

The bill provides for a nine-member Farm Aid Advisory Board to be created by the end of May.

Certainly those appointments should be made carefully to include people who understand the economics of agriculture, as well as best practices for making such distributions.

The board should also be ready to hit the

ground running. Every week that goes by, more farmers become vulnerable to foreclosures.

Some farmers were already in a bind when the 1,000-year rains came. The summer of 2015 was hot and very dry, parching lots of crops. Then came the floods, destroying more crops, ruining expensive farm equipment and wiping out farmers' savings. Altogether, the farming industry lost \$586 million last year in South Carolina. The bill approved by the Legislature won't allow farmers to use state aid to lower their debt or buy equipment.

Legislators were wise to recognize the dire need and not be distracted by the governor's contention that farmers had enough assistance from elsewhere and should receive nothing more than other industries received.

In another stunning move, Gov. Haley opted not to request FEMA assistance for farmers as she did for homeowners, who received \$375 million.

So many farmers didn't qualify for federal help, some didn't have insurance and some insurance didn't cover flooding.

Legislators got it. When the House voted to override Gov. Haley's veto, the chamber broke into applause.

The entire state should be happy to help farmers recover from a disaster and get back to planting and harvesting fresh produce that residents – and the state economy – depend on.

— *Post & Courier, Charleston*

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AIKEN STANDARD FILE PHOTO

Local farmer Clint Brown said this 40-acre field he rents off Highway 389 in the Wagener-Salley area experienced an erosion problem, with water coming out of the field and heading to a nearby home.

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 Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 61238

Could S.C. solve Trump's diversity problem?

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Yes, Gov. **Nikki Haley**, South Carolina's first Indian-American and first female governor, voluntarily removed herself from the running to be **Donald Trump's** running mate after the New York billionaire became the presumptive GOP presidential nominee. (Still, a Rasmussen poll taken about a week after Haley bowed out showed that 9 percent of GOP voters wanted her in the VP spot anyway.) Now, however, another prominent S.C. Republican's name has come up.

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As the first African-American U.S. senator from the South since Reconstruction, Scott could help Trump address his "serious demographic challenge" owing to his awful ratings among nonwhite voters, who could make up 30 percent or so of the electorate in 2016," the Crystal Ballers from the University of Virginia wrote.

With U.S. Sens. **Ted Cruz** and **Marco Rubio** out of the picture, "there aren't many options to counter this problem for Trump, even to the limited extent that a running mate could address that issue."

Whether Scott would accept a Trump offer is another question.

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But, in February, Scott

criticized Trump for not immediately condemning the Ku Klux Klan and **David Duke** after the white supremacist and former KKK grand wizard endorsed him.

If Scott could overlook that – and any other follies the once-Rubio enthusiast sees in the presumptive nominee – Trump would be lucky to have Scott as a running mate, said Columbia GOP political consultant **Luke Byars**, who has done some fundraising work for the senator.

"He's developed a reputation outside of South Carolina as a bridge builder and a conservative consensus builder," Byars said. "He's very well respected and very well liked. ... If he were to get asked, I'm sure he would give it serious consideration."

Byars said he was surprised Scott's name hasn't come up sooner, but that's likely because the senator

"doesn't seek the limelight. He'd be more at home doing charity work back in South Carolina, hanging out with his family."

Not exactly the style Trump has intoned with his reality-TV and campaign-stump celebrity.

Nevertheless, Scott "would be a great balance for the ticket," Byars said with "tongue firmly planted in cheek."

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(**The Buzz** wonders if the Tennesseans asked Haley where the angry farmers fit in her definition of a new South.)

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TWEET OF THE WEEK

From S.C. political operative **Phil Bailey** @PhilBaileySC on lawmakers voting to override Haley's veto of aid for flooded farmers: "Be on the look out for the 5 S.C. lawmakers who voted against farmers this week. All spotted in this car," a small, yellow minicar shown.

Jamie Self: 803-771-8658, @jamiemself



TNS

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-North Charleston

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Byars said he was surprised Scott's name hasn't come up sooner, but that's likely because the senator

however, another prominent S.C. Republican's name has come up.

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-North Charleston, would be "one of the few plausible picks," according to a "Veepstakes" report brought to Rasmussen by the prognosticators from Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball.

As the first African-American U.S. senator from the South since Reconstruction, Scott could help Trump address his "serious demographic challenge owing to his awful ratings among non-white voters, who could make up 30 percent or so of the electorate in 2016,"

the Crystal Ballers from the University of Virginia wrote.

With U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio out of the picture, "there aren't many options to counter this problem for Trump, even to the limited extent that a running mate could address that issue."

Whether Scott would accept a Trump offer is another question.

Asked late Friday, Scott's campaign spokesperson said the senator is focused only on representing S.C. residents and winning re-election this fall.

But, in February, Scott criticized Trump for not

immediately condemning the Ku Klux Klan and David Duke after the white supremacist and former KKK grand wizard endorsed him.

If Scott could overlook that — and any other follies the once-Rubio enthusiast sees in the presumptive nominee — Trump would be lucky to have Scott as a running mate, said Columbia GOP political consultant Luke Byars, who has done some fundraising work for the senator.

"He's developed a reputation outside of South Carolina as a bridge builder and a conservative

SEE SCOTT, 4A

"doesn't seek the limelight. He'd be more at home doing charity work back in South Carolina, hanging out with his family."

HALEY HEADS FOR HIGHER GROUND

Republican Haley's latest political battleship may have sunk swiftly —

and overwhelmingly — last week, when the GOP-controlled Legislature deep-sixed her veto of \$40 million in flood aid to farmers who lost crops in October's historic tor-

rents. But Haley still has plenty of political capital — enough to lift her up and

away from her critics in South Carolina's waterlogged peanut-farmer gallery.

Last Tuesday, Haley campaigned in Richmond alongside Virginia GOP gubernatorial candidate Ed Gillespie, a former Republican National Committee chairman who has helped

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recruit minorities to run down ballot. The previous Friday, Haley spoke on the “New South” at Tennessee Republicans’ annual dinner in Nashville.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On Wednesday, the S.C. Legislative Black Caucus is holding a “Day of Remembrance, A Day of Celebration” at the Statehouse — less than a month before the first anniversary of a gunman entering

Charleston’s Emanuel AME Church and slaying nine African-American parishioners.

The event starts with a prayer meeting under the dome at 2 p.m., following the election of a new state

Supreme Court chief justice. At 4 p.m., a portrait of Democratic state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, a pastor who was slain while leading a Bible study at his church, will be unveiled.

Title: **Haley vetoes farmers' aid; legislators will try to save it**
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Haley vetoes farmers' aid; legislators will try to save it

Haley calls farm aid
"unprecedented bailout"

Farm aid passed House and
Senate with veto-proof
majorities

House budget chairman says
override could come as soon
as Tuesday

BY JAMIE SELF
jself@thestate.com

NEWBERRY

Jimmie Shaw was out spraying crops Monday on his farm, hoping the harvest turns out better than it fared last October.

When historic rainfall hit the state, water-logging crops, Shaw lost about 60 percent of his cotton crop. To help offset that loss, Shaw and other S.C. farmers are counting on \$40 million in state aid overwhelmingly

approved by lawmakers.

"There are a lot of people, especially down in the Pee Dee and along the coast – those guys really need some help," Shaw said.

But on Monday, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed that farm aid, saying the money would be an "unprecedented bailout for a single industry affected by last year's flooding."

The state spending for farmers – a "vocal industry" – would be unfair to other sectors that also suffered from the flood and are not receiving any state support, she said in her message accompanying the veto.

However, Haley's veto may not stick.

The state House and Senate overwhelmingly approved the

farm aid by bipartisan veto-proof majorities. Two legislative leaders said Monday they expect lawmakers to override Haley's veto, sending the relief to the farmers who make up one of the state's largest industries.

House Ways and Means Committee chairman Brian White, R-Anderson, said he is disappointed in Haley's "rhetoric,"

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FARMERS

adding she decries a bailout for farmers but supports spending millions to entice corporations to relocate or expand in the state.

"She's OK handing it out to industry coming in, whether it's tires or automotive or airplanes," but not to farmers whose families have been the "backbone of the farming industry" for generations, he said.

"We voted strongly already to pass the bill,"

White said. "I sincerely hope that we'll override it as early as tomorrow (Tuesday)."

"This is a segment of our population and our economy that has suffered tremendously," said Senate Minority Leader Nikki Setzler, D-Lexington, also hopeful lawmakers will override the governor's veto. "To deny them aid when we can provide it to them is traumatic."

"I would be surprised if the votes aren't there to override (Haley's veto)," Setzler said.

Three state senators and six state representatives voted against the farm package, including state Sen. Tom Davis, R-Beaufort.

Davis said he opposed the bill because the farming industry "already receives a vast amount of taxpayer support" through federally subsidized crop insurance and commodity payments. But, Davis added, "The 2015 disaster spared no one in its path. ... In its wake, it not only left many individuals out of a home, it left many

businesses ... out of business."

The agriculture industry was no exception, Davis said. However, he said he opposed the farm-aid bill because the farming industry "already receives a vast amount of taxpayer support" through federally subsidized crop insurance and commodity payments.

S.C. Farm Bureau president Harry Ott said he was "terribly disappointed" by Haley's veto of aid, which, he said, could help farmers recoup some their \$376 million in direct

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losses related to the rainfall and flooding. When counting the impact to other agriculture-related businesses, the losses are higher, Ott said.

"I was holding out hope, all the way to the end, that she would basically carry through with her promises that she made earlier that she would always have the farmers' back and help them get through this tough time."

However, in her veto message, Haley challenged the idea that farmers "will not survive another year without a cash bailout."

"This is simply not true," she said, noting "many federal resources"

available year-round to farmers.

But Ott, a former Democratic state representative, said farmers do not have access to the same federal support programs as homeowners and small businesses. Some farmers have emergency loans they have applied for that still have not come through, he added.

Meanwhile, farmers are "trying to make arrangements to buy fertilizer and seed to get crops in the ground," he said.

"I'm all for small businesses as well," said Newberry farmer Shaw, a partner at Overbridge Farms. "They need to have a vibrant economy ... to

succeed as well. But the difference in the farmers, in my mind, is we've got one shot to make that crop for our livelihood. We can't go plant soybeans again in November and hope to make that money up. ...

"We need this money not to pay off debt. We need this money to keep operating. We need this money to grow our next crop, to get us back on our feet."

Jamie Self: 803-771-8658,
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SC flood aid to farmers

Lawmakers in the House and

Senate passed a bill that would send \$40 million in state money to S.C. farmers who lost crops in October's record rainfall and flooding.

40 percent: Amount of loss farmers must have incurred on a crop to qualify for a state grant

\$376 million: Estimated damage to S.C. crops due to October's record rainfall and flooding

95-6: House vote passing the farm-aid package

33-3: Senate vote passing the bill

Two-thirds: Number of legislators present and voting in the House and Senate who must vote in order to override Haley's veto



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Jimmie Lee Shaw stands in a cotton field Monday at Overbridge Farms in Newberry.