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Subject: ICYMI: Securing South Carolina's Infrastructure Through Investment

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Securing South Carolina's Infrastructure Through Investment

Governor Nikki Haley, 2013 State Of The State: "The Answer To Our Infrastructure Problems Is Not To Tax Our People More, It's To Spend Their Money Smarter."

During a Thursday afternoon press conference, business leaders from across the state praised Governor Nikki Haley's plan to invest additional anticipated revenues into strengthening state infrastructure. The governor's executive budget, released in December 2012, invests more than \$90 million in projected new funding for transportation in FY 2013-14.

Tomorrow, based upon the strong revenue collections which South Carolina has had to-date, the Board of Economic Advisors (BEA) is going to raise its revenue estimate and recognize close to \$100 million in new money. Governor Haley is urging lawmakers to use it to fix transportation infrastructure.

Video of today's press conference is available below:

Governor Nikki Haley: This Is The Perfect Opportunity



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OF4HiqSUtuA&feature=youtu.be>

"This is the perfect opportunity to put our actions where our mouths are because the priority of South Carolina right now is jobs and infrastructure means jobs. We have got to have more infrastructure in this state. I can sell South Carolina all day long and we can have Google, we can have Michelin expanding, we can have Caterpillar, and all these great companies but at some point it will stop if we don't make infrastructure a priority." – **Governor Nikki Haley**

SCDOT Secretary Robert St. Onge:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wymbwvIE4jc>

“We appreciate the initiatives Governor Haley, members of the Generally Assembly and local jurisdictions to provide additional revenues for the improvement of bridges and the entire realm of system upgrades for our transportation infrastructure. It’s vital to our citizens and the state’s economy to bring the level of service of our highway infrastructure to more safe and efficient standards.” – **SCDOT Secretary Robert St. Onge**

S.C. Chamber Of Commerce President & CEO Otis Rawl:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPfS1XWI39g>

“Governor Haley has continued to outline infrastructure as a top priority this legislative session because she understands the link between reliable roads and bridges and economic development. Other states that South Carolina directly competes with for jobs and capital investment are addressing their infrastructure needs, and South Carolina’s business community urges the General Assembly to make infrastructure financing a top priority in 2013. Allocating close to \$100 million in one-time new money is another good first step in addressing the state’s infrastructure crisis, and we commend Governor Haley for again being proactive in working to create a climate that will foster economic development.” – **S.C. Chamber Of Commerce President & CEO Otis Rawl**

NFIB State Director Ben Homeyer:



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3R_LJv1jBk

“Raising taxes to finance projects that are important to the economy would have been counterproductive. Small business owners are very pleased that the Governor has found a way to make critical investments in infrastructure without boosting their expenses in a tough economy.” – **NFIB State Director Ben Homeyer**

SCMA President & CEO Lewis Gossett:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gCxJlz24YY>

“Having a sound transportation infrastructure system is absolutely essential to manufacturers’ ability to compete and create jobs. Investing in infrastructure, particularly our interstate system in South Carolina, is a core function of government, and it is encouraging that Governor Haley has made this a priority at a time when South Carolina’s opportunities for economic growth are improving. The impact of this commitment for additional funding for our roads and bridges will be long-lasting and positive for all South Carolinians” – **SCMA President & CEO Lewis Gossett**

“A safe and efficient supply chain is critically important to our economy, and the legislature has by law given the state DOT the majority of the responsibility to provide the infrastructure. We applaud Governor Haley and our legislative leaders who are looking to supplement user fees with existing revenues and growth to provide critical funding to improve our highway infrastructure. This problem has been ignored for too long, and the needs are tremendous, but this is a good start.” – **SCTA**

President & CEO Rick Todd

PABC Vice President Cathy Novinger:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkESuyXTcQg>

S.C. Chamber Of Commerce Chairman Mike Brennan:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCXTwm4H59Y>

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