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Date: 6/5/2014 10:40:13 AM

Subject: Governor's VETO MESSAGE: S.293

Members of the Senate,

Governor Haley vetoed and returned without her approval R205, S.293, a bill that raises the cap on property taxes for the Murrell's Inlet-Garden City Fire District from 10 mills to 14 mills without voter referendum.

We strongly hope you will vote to sustain the Governor's veto for S.293 – Murrell's Inlet-Garden City Fire District.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran

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Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate,

I am vetoing and returning without my approval R205, S.293, a bill that raises the cap on property taxes for the Murrell's Inlet-Garden City Fire District from 10 mills to 14 mills. I have vetoed this bill because I believe that taxpayers deserve a chance to vote on tax increases.

I have been clear that these types of local bills – that effectively and inevitably raise taxes on citizens – should first go to the citizens to be voted into law.

Not only does this bill deny the people a referendum on a tax increase, this bill also gives an appointed, unelected board the authority to set the new millage rate under the increased cap. As a matter of good government, we should not allow a board that is insulated from and unaccountable to the people raise taxes on those it supposedly serves.

Let me remind you that every member of the General Assembly is expected to vote on every bill, even local bills. For these reasons, I respectfully ask that every member of the Senate vote to sustain my veto. Together, we can save the taxpayers of Murrell's Inlet and Garden City from a tax increase they did not choose and cannot control.

**My very best,
Nikki R. Haley**