

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

January 21, 2016

Dear Governor Haley,

I'm writing you today hoping for your help with a legal issue my family encounters when we visit your lovely state.

My great-grandfather, Preston Cokesbury White, Sr., raised my grandfather, Warren Thomas White, and his nine siblings in Marion County, SC. I still have many cousins and relatives living in the state, and I consider myself a grandson of South Carolina. I live in Georgia, and my daughter is a proud sophomore at Clemson University. I am very conservative, and as such, I believe in self-reliance and ultimate responsibility for my actions. I believe my right to bear arms to be an essential duty of my American citizenship, and I intend to responsibly exercise my right within the limits of the law if at all possible in my own country.

I'm writing you today to express my deep frustration with the extents to which I have had to go to gain the legal ability for me and my family to defend ourselves in South Carolina. I'm certain you are well aware that since Georgia has no training requirement for carrying a concealed weapon, your state does not recognize my Georgia concealed carry permit. However, since Florida does require training for a carry permit, South Carolina will recognize a Florida permit. My wife and I are both applying for Florida permits, and expect to receive them. As responsible gun owner's, my wife, our daughter, and I have all taken hunter safety training courses, which the state of Florida recognizes as acceptable firearms training. Certainly you can understand that when my wife, our daughter, or even when I, myself, am driving the interstate highway between Atlanta and Clemson, alone or together, the ability to defend ourselves in a bad situation is paramount. Therefore we choose to legally carry our weapons with us if at all possible.

If South Carolina would simply have a non-resident licensure process for out of state applicants such as my family, it would be so much easier for us when we come to your lovely state to visit our daughter. This cumbersome process for me to legally carry my concealed weapon in your state has cost me time and money, when it costs criminals very little to carry their weapons outside of the law, at least until they are caught...if they are ever caught.

I'm hoping that perhaps you will encourage your legislature to enable law-abiding citizens like me and my family to adequately defend ourselves in your state without having to go to this much trouble. We would gladly apply for a non-resident firearm permit in SC if such a thing existed. Furthermore, my daughter is only 19. How can I know that she will be able to defend herself if she is not old enough to legally carry a weapon in your state as a non-resident? Even President Obama will tell you that violent crime is at an all-time high on college campuses. I look forward to hearing any thoughts you might have on this matter.

Yours very truly,



Rob White

