



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

June 10, 2016

Dear Members of the General Assembly,

Today, I signed into law R292, S.667, a bill that clarifies the boundary between South Carolina and North Carolina and provides remedies to affected residents to mitigate issues resulting from a change in residency.

For two decades, our state has worked in conjunction with North Carolina to clarify the border between our states. As former colonies, the line separating North and South Carolina dates back almost 300 years to a time when surveyors had to rely on natural landmarks, such as rocks, trees, or rivers that changed over time or were lost altogether. In an effort to avoid a dispute between our states that could result in costly litigation, officials from both states worked together to resurvey the boundary using historical records and then used modern technology to identify GIS coordinates that would, once and for all, bring finality to where South Carolina ends and North Carolina begins.

Let me be clear: This bill did not change our border—it clarified where our border has always been. It is our hope that the remedies provided in this bill will provide relief to those residents and businesses impacted by their new recognition. My understanding is that the companion bill in North Carolina is expected to become law as well, providing the same relief to residents on both sides of the border.

A debt of gratitude is owed to the South Carolina Geodetic Survey, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, the Boundary Commission, the Attorney General's Office, and many other public servants who have been a part of this monumental undertaking.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

Nikki R. Haley