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**Subject:** Disability Advocacy Day  
**Location:** North Steps, Statehouse Grounds  
**When:** 3/2/2016 11:00:00 AM - 11:15:00 AM

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Advance: Colin Duncan  
(803)260-0938

**APPROVED BY:** NRH on 2/1

**EVENT:** Disability Advocacy Day

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 2, 2016

**TIME:** 11:00 AM

**LOCATION:** North Steps, Statehouse Grounds

**LOCATION SET-UP:** We will have a podium and microphone set up in the area that circles to the steps from the main entrance. If she comes out of that main door and comes to the front, she will be in the right area.

**SCHEDULING CONTACT:**

Valarie Bishop  
Director, Developmental Disabilities Council  
Office of Executive Policy and Programs  
(803) 734-0215  
[Valarie.Bishop@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Valarie.Bishop@admin.sc.gov)

**PRIMARY STAFF:** Ashton Lee

**ADVANCE STAFF:**

**PURPOSE:** Gov. Haley will participate in Disability Advocacy Day by giving a few remarks and reading the Disability Advocacy Proclamation. The topic areas of the event are transportation, employment, supported/independent living, respite, supported decision-making and waiting list reduction.

**PRESS:** Yes.

**PUBLIC:** Yes.

**INVITED BY:** Valarie Bishop, Director, Developmental Disabilities Council

**INTRODUCED BY:** Valerie Bishop will do the short introduction with Connie Coleman, who is the MC of the event. Connie is the President of the statewide Impact self-advocacy group that is coordinating the event. They plan to focus on what Governor Haley has done for people with developmental disabilities including her continued commitment to Employment, Independent Living and reduction of the waiting list for services.

**LENGTH OF SPEAKING:** 10 mins. No Q&A. They would like for NH to read the proclamation.

**SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE:**

9:30 – 10:00 AM      Registration

10:00 AM              Welcome Assembly on the Statehouse Steps

**11:00 AM              Governor Haley arrives**

**11:00 AM              Governor Haley**

**11:15 AM              Governor Haley departs**

11:15 AM              Recognition in the House Chamber

11:30 AM              DAD Walk

12:00 PM              Awards & Rally on Statehouse Steps

12:00 PM              Lunch

1:00 PM                State House tour

**TALKING POINTS:****PROCLAMATION WORDING:**

**WHEREAS,**            thousands of South Carolina residents and families are impacted by severe lifelong disabilities including autism, traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and intellectual and related disabilities; and

**WHEREAS,**            people with lifelong disabilities are productive citizens, neighbors, and family members, deserving of respect and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, independence, and personal growth; and

**WHEREAS,**            South Carolinians with and without disabilities work together, play together, worship together, learn together, and grow together; and

**WHEREAS,**            family members, caregivers, and service providers selflessly offer daily care, assistance, supervision, and physical and emotional support to individuals with disabilities to help ensure their full participation in community life; and

**WHEREAS,**            the 2016 observance of Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates 27 years of successes of people with disabilities in education, employment, and community activities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 2016 as

**DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote increased opportunities for people with disabilities, to recognize the many contributions made by people with disabilities in our communities, and to honor the dedication of the caregivers who bring support and hope to their fellow citizens.