

From: South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
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Subject: Winning Here at Home

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August 22, 2014

Football season is almost here. And in South Carolina, whether you are a Gamecock, Tiger or a Bulldog, football fans mean big business for the Palmetto State. Within days, thousands of eager fans will flock to their favorite stadiums to see the season's official kick-off, bringing millions of tourism dollars with them.

Economic impact studies from [Clemson University](#) and the [University of South Carolina](#) showed that when combined, each home football game at the two universities, generates more than \$16 million for our state. Another economic touchdown is that every home game supports an average of 200 jobs and brings millions in revenue to local retailers and small businesses.

On the field and in business, our state is winning - and that's in large part due to our collaborative approach to business recruitment. We work better when we work together. And while 'Team Carolina' may mean something a little different for the Department of Commerce than it does for fans at Williams Brice Stadium, the goals are the same - to bring success to the Palmetto State and be champions here at home.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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Spotlight: Regional Education Centers of South Carolina

The [Regional Education Centers of South Carolina](#) (RECs) are now an initiative of the South Carolina Department of Commerce. Created by the Education and Economic Development Act of 2005, the twelve Regional Education Centers, or RECs, were established throughout South Carolina to support the statewide Personal Pathways to Success initiative. By creating a network of local service providers, RECs are at the intersection of education, business, and economic development.

From career and college planning resources for students and adults to training opportunities for educators and employers, the RECs work to connect South Carolinians to the information, resources and services they need to achieve success in the global marketplace. For more information on the RECs and their programs, [click here](#).

Photo Caption: SC Department of Commerce employees Lauren Pershouse and Michael McInerney (from left) are shown here with REC coordinators Patricia Ferguson, Lisa Robbins, Cynthia Pitts, Rick Murphy, Joni McDaniel, Brenda Golden, Cherie Pressley, Kaye Shaw (front), Jay Blankenship (back) and Eileen Patonay. Not pictured is Cheryl Lewis.

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Commerce Capture: Discover South Carolina

Hunting Island is South Carolina's single most popular state park, attracting more than a million visitors a year. The park features miles of beach and thousands of acres of marsh and maritime forest, a saltwater lagoon and ocean inlet. Of all the lighthouses in South Carolina, the Hunting Island Lighthouse is the only one in the state that is publicly accessible. For more beautiful places to discover in South Carolina, visit the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism's brand new www.discoversouthcarolina.com.

*Photo caption: Surf fisherman enjoying **Hunting Island State Park** in Hunting Island, South Carolina. Photo courtesy of the **South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism***

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