

From: Veldran, Katherine

To: (rwhayes@comporium.net) <rwhayes@comporium.net>

Nikki Setzler (nikki@setzler-scott.com) <nikki@setzler-scott.com>

CC: Josh Baker <JoshBaker@gov.sc.gov>

Haley Mottel (HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov) <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 4/20/2015 5:15:47 PM

Subject: Rural Teacher Initiative

Attachments: Rural Teacher 1-pager (SF).pdf

Chairman Hayes and Senator Setzler,

Below and attached are (*Senate Finance*) follow up points regarding the Rural Teacher Initiative. Attached is also an updated one pager.

We are available to answer any other question and/or concerns. We appreciate your time and support.

Thank you,

Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran

Director of Legislative Affairs | Office of Governor Nikki Haley

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KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov

From: Baker, Josh

Sent: Monday, April 20, 2015 10:14 AM

To: Veldran, Katherine

Subject: Rural Teacher Initiative

Katherine,

Please find attached a one-pager on rural teachers. There were some questions in Senate Finance, so I would make the following points:

The initiative does not rely on closure of the National Board Incentive for funding. The initiative is fairly small in the first year, and can compete openly with all other priorities in future years for expansion.

Sen. Matthews had some good questions about the 12% threshold and the distinction between urban and rural districts. What we found in doing research for this initiative is that school districts generally considered to be rural also had the highest turnover. Instead of going through the process of determining what is and is not a rural district in terms of eligibility, we tied eligibility to those districts that have the hardest time keeping teachers, which are also the most rural districts. This way, eligibility and resources go to the areas where the problem is the largest. While it is true urban districts with extremely high turnover would be eligible, urban districts don't typically have staff retention problems (in terms of percentage) at the magnitude of rural districts.

If there are any other questions or concerns, I am available to address them.

Thanks,

Josh

Joshua D. Baker

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