

Dear Governor Haley,

Hi, My name is Olivia Lee McConnell and I am 8 years and in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Carolina Academy in

Lake City. My dad and I like to eat at a restaurant

that has a menu that has the state symbols. I realized

that we do not have a state

fossil. I love fossils and I am interested in making the mammoth

the state fossil. Here are my reasons

why we need a state fossil =

① The first fossils (The mammoth)

found in North America were discovered in South Carolina by slaves in 1725.

② We don't have a state fossil (only 7 states don't have a state

fossil.) ③ Fossils tell us about our past.

Thank you for helping me make the state fossil the mammoth

Please work on this for me.

your friend

Olivia

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Thank you so much for consideration of my daughter's request. I have helped her conduct research on this topic and Mr. Dave Cicimurri (curator at the State Museum) confirms that the first fossils to be accurately identified in North America were found in SC and felt to belong to a mammoth. Mr. Dana Cope (professor of anthropology) at the College of Charleston has confirmed this as well and is excited about this possibility. Please let me know if we can assist with any other research in the future. Thank you for your time on this matter. We encourage our children to make a difference in this world and big or small - they do!

Sincerely -  
Amanda McConnell