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June 27, 2017

Commissioner Huge E. Weathers
South Carolina Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 11280
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Commissioner Weathers:

On behalf of the Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee, we appreciate the agency's continued cooperation during the oversight process. The Subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on Monday, July 10 at 2:00 p.m. As it is my understanding you are unable to attend the meeting on July 10, the Subcommittee will hold another work session with regards to its study of the Department of Agriculture. Please have an agency representative available to answer any potential questions. In preparation for the next work session, the Subcommittee seeks additional information from the agency, pertaining to its recommendations, on or before Friday, July 7, 2017.

Recommendation #4 - Adopt the model feed law proposed by the American Association of Feed Control Officials

- Please explain the difference in the tonnage fee versus the registration fee and how the agency will be able to make this change budget neutral?
- Please explain the facility registration fees.
- Please explain any other fees and if the proposed changes adds or keeps these the same.

Recommendation #10 - Authorize an application fee (\$25) for a food business when registering for a registration verification certificate

Recommendations #11 - Authorize a tiered annual fee for a registration verification certificate

- How much revenue does the agency anticipate this fee will generate?
- How many inspectors, if any, will this revenue enable the agency to hire?

Commissioner Weathers
June 27, 2017

Previously, the Subcommittee requested draft language (i.e., strike through and underline format) of agency recommendations. We appreciate the suggested language already provided for many of the agency recommendations. It would be helpful to have that language for the remaining agency recommendations:

- Recommendation #5 - Authorize agency to fine businesses that habitually and willfully violate existing consumer protection labeling/quality laws
- Recommendation #6 - Requires businesses that dispense petroleum products to notify the agency within 30 days of operating dispensers
- Recommendation #7 - Authorize a \$5 per dispenser registration fee for business that dispense petroleum products
- Recommendation #8 - Enforce a scalable money penalty for habitual and willful offenders of petroleum law, when taking advantage of the consumer

In your responses to these questions, please provide the Subcommittee with any relevant, necessary context information. As a reminder, testimony during meetings and written information from agencies are considered sworn testimony and subject to S.C. Code of Laws Sections 2-2-70 through 2-2-120. Thank you for your service to the citizens of South Carolina.

Sincerely,



Laurie Slade Funderburk
Committee First Vice-Chair

cc: Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee Members