

The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton, Chairman Legislative Oversight Committee South Carolina House of Representatives Post Office Box 11867 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Chairman,

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to you and the members of the Legislative Oversight Committee for the insightful and productive study that your committee conducted of this agency. This process has provided the Department of Archives and History with a rare opportunity to inform committee members about our agency, while receiving valuable input from them and the public regarding our performance.

We would like to offer special thanks to the members of the Education and Cultural Subcommittee, which is chaired by the Hon. James E. Smith, Jr. and comprised of the Hon. Raye Felder, the Hon. Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr., the Hon. Tommy M. Stringer, and the Hon. Gary E. Clary. Subcommittee members were attentive throughout our meetings and never failed to offer discerning questions regarding all aspects of our strategic planning and operations. Their perceptive suggestions and recommendations will be of great benefit to this agency as we move forward.

Finally, we would like to commend the Legislative Oversight Committee staff members, who have done an exemplary job of guiding our agency through the study process. Jennifer L. Dobson, Charles L. Appleby IV, Carmen J.M. Simon and Cathy Greer represent the very best of South Carolina state employees. Throughout this process they have been knowledgeable, efficient, patient, and pleasant. We are very grateful for all of their efforts on our behalf.

Please let me know if we may answer any other questions or be of service in the future. We also would like to offer an open invitation to the committee to visit the Archives and History Center and receive a tour of the state's great trove of historic records.

Best regards,

W. Eric Emerson, Ph.D. Director and State Historic Preservation Officer