

Office of the President

April 12, 2013

The Honorable Raymond E. Cleary, III Senator, SC District 34 Chair, Finance Special Subcommittee 610 Gressette Building Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Senator Cleary:

We are writing to convey our position on S 535, which is known as the "Clemson University Enterprise Act." This legislation exempts certain university operations, activities, and programs from the South Carolina procurement code and provides other exemptions from state laws and regulations.

As indicated by the signatures that appear on the following page, the comprehensive teaching universities respectfully request that they all be added to this bill. We believe that the statutory and regulatory relief the bill affords should apply without exception to all of the state's senior public institutions. Including the comprehensive teaching universities in this legislation will enhance each institution's capacity to promote the economic development of their respective regions and the state.

We also respectfully recommend that the provisions of S 535 granting exemption from the State Employee Grievance Act be eliminated and replaced with a section embodying the "Recommendations for Creation of a Separate and Comprehensive HR System for Higher Education," a report submitted to the State Budget and Control Board on January 15, 2013. For the record, we note that none of the recommendations contained in that January 2013 report infringe on the State Employee Grievance Act.

We thank the members of the special subcommittee for the opportunity to present our position on this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

David A. DeCenzo

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President

Approval Signatures

Daniel Ball, President Lander University

J. Sooze Bour

April 12, 2013 Date

P. George Benson, President College of Charleston April 12, 2013 Date

Luther F. Carter, President Francis Marion University

April 12, 2013 Date

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April 12, 2013 Date

David A. DeCenzo, President Coastal Carolina University

> April 12, 2013 Date

Anthony J. DiGiorgio, President Winthrop University

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April 12, 2013 Date

Lt. Gen. John W. Rosa, President The Citadel

> April 12, 2013 Date

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Cynthia Warrick, Interim President South Carolina State University