

R. Wes Hayes, Jr.
Chairman

L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D.
President and Executive Director



November 26, 2025

The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor of the State of S.C.
The Honorable Thomas C. Alexander, President, and Members, S.C. Senate
The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Speaker, and Members, S.C. House of Representatives

Dear Governor McMaster and Members of the S.C. General Assembly:

This letter provides an update on the status of the SmartState® Program annual report and audit. As required by S.C. Code Ann. § 2-75-10, the SmartState® Review Board must provide an annual report, including an audit conducted by an independent auditor, to the General Assembly and the Department of Administration by November 30 of each year.

Although the audit was scheduled to be completed prior to the November 30, 2025 deadline, the independent auditor has notified us that the retirement of longstanding SmartState® Program liaisons at the research universities, combined with expanded operational and quality-control measures, has delayed the submission of the audit. Based on preliminary discussions, the auditor has indicated that the fieldwork and the initial draft audit are currently in the review phase.

Given these circumstances, we anticipate submitting the completed SmartState® annual report and audit before December 30, 2025. Our plan is to finalize and distribute comprehensive drafts of the report before the extended deadline, allowing sufficient time for thorough review and timely submission.

Please contact Dr. Argentini Anderson at (803) 856-0511 or aanderson@che.sc.gov if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Argentini Anderson
Argentini Anderson, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Licensing.



803-737-2260

1122 Lady St, Ste 400
Columbia, SC 29201

www.che.sc.gov

