WHEREAS, I have been informed that by Fifteenth Circuit Solicitor Ralph J. Wilson that Earlene E. Woods, Atlantic Beach Town Council member, has been indicted by the Grand Jury of Horry County on one count of discharge of a firearm into an occupied dwelling, a violation of Section 16-23-440 of the South Carolina Code (1993 Supp.); and,

WHEREAS, I am informed that Earlene E. Woods will be brought to trial pursuant to said indictment; and,

WHEREAS, the charge of discharge of a firearm into an occupied dwelling is considered to be one involving moral turpitude; and,

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 8 of the South Carolina Constitution provides that Governor may suspend any officer of the state or its political subdivisions who is indicted for a crime on a charge involving moral turpitude; and,

WHEREAS, I as Governor of the State of South Carolina am mindful of the duties and responsibilities vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State.
NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of the state of South Carolina, I hereby order that Earlene E. Woods, Atlantic Beach Town Councilwoman be and is hereby suspended from the office of Town Council for Atlantic Beach until such a time as she may be formally acquitted.

This action in no manner addresses itself to the question of the guilt or innocence of Earlene E. Woods, and shall not be construed as an expression of any opinion as to such a question.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
Governor

ATTEST:

JAMES M. MILES
Secretary of State