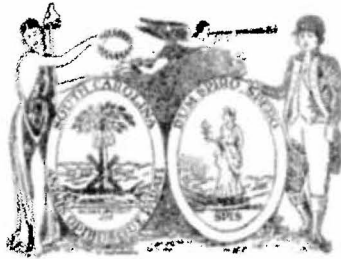


State of South Carolina
Executive Department

FILED

JUL 28 2014

Mark Hammond
SECRETARY OF STATE 8



Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2014-33

WHEREAS, the Heritage Corridor Plan resulted from a grant awarded to the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism ("SCPRT") from the South Carolina Department of Transportation in 1993; and

WHEREAS, by Executive Order 1994-15, the Governor of the State of South Carolina charged SCPRT with creating a heritage program in South Carolina, recognizing there was a bill pending before the Congress of the United States to designate a corridor in the western part of the State of South Carolina as a National Heritage Corridor; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 1996, Public Law 104-333, Division II, Title VI, 110 Statute 4260 officially established the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor ("SCNHC"), providing federal funding until 2012 for the South Carolina National Heritage Trust Program ("Program"), and directing selection of the management entity for the Program by the Governor of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, by Executive Order 1997-18, the Governor of the State of South Carolina, recognizing the significant cost of fully implementing the Program, directed SCPRT to create an independent, tax-exempt public benefit corporation, SCNHC, Inc., to lessen the financial burden on state government with respect to the management and implementation of the Program; and

WHEREAS, in May 1998, the United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, and the State of South Carolina entered into a cooperative agreement that recognized and established SCPRT as the recipient of the federal funds, responsible for the Program as the Program's fiscal and administrative agent; and

WHEREAS, SCNHC, Inc. was established in order to raise non-public funds to be used for the management and implementation of the Program with the goal of

creating a self-sustaining Program that would ultimately not require public funding to maintain itself; and

WHEREAS, because the Program relied heavily on SCPRT for financial and administrative support, by Executive Order 2008-15, the Governor of the State of South Carolina designated SCPRT as the management entity for the Program; and

WHEREAS, in February 2011, the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council (“LAC”), after a thorough review of the Program, recommended, as an alternative to the present structure of the Program, that SCPRT be given full control and management of all operations and aspects of the Program, including evaluating and awarding community grant applications throughout the Corridor; and

WHEREAS, by Executive Order 2011-08, the Governor of the State of South Carolina designated SCPRT as the recipient and grantor of the federal grant funds and the agent for all fiscal and administrative responsibilities connected thereto, with full authority to organize, implement and direct the Program as it determines necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, a Congressionally-mandated federal evaluation of the SCNHC was performed and found that “the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor non-profit organization...has fulfilled its legislated purposes and goals outlined in the management plan through the federal resources provided;” and

WHEREAS, independent financial audits have been conducted and submitted to the LAC for review, and in June 2014, the LAC has now recommended that the SCNHC be given full autonomy of its operations and programs; and

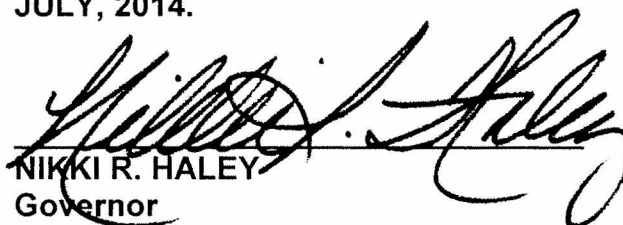
WHEREAS, federal grantor agencies also find the SCNHC has administered the grants “with great diligence, and have proven themselves prudent and prompt with all financial reporting requirements” and the Director of SCPRT, the existing management entity, expresses his support for the LAC’s recommendation to give SCNHC full autonomy which “will better adhere to the original intent and purpose of the heritage areas program and will, ultimately, maximize the potential benefits we can achieve through a collaborative and equal partnership.”

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina and the United States, I hereby release the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism from any further responsibilities related to the management of the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, Inc. and recognize the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor as a fully independent, autonomous public benefit corporation to be managed, advised, and operated under the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor Board and in cooperation with the National Park Service.


This Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes Executive Orders 2008-15 and 2011-08, which are hereby, canceled, rescinded, and from this date declared null and void.



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 28th DAY OF JULY, 2014.


NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

ATTEST:


MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State