February 27, 2008

The Honorable Robert W. Harrell, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

I am hereby vetoing and returning without my approval H. 4403, R-199. This bill designates the Boiling Springs geyser in Spartanburg County a State Historic Site.

While we applaud Rep. Davenport's effort to commemorate the historic value of the Boiling Springs geyser, we are vetoing this bill because a formal process currently exists to honor this type of site. The Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department (PRT) and the Department of Archives and History (DAH) have many programs, including the Historic Markers Program and the National Register of Historic Places Program, which would allow such a site to be properly documented and honored.

Additionally, the intent of H. 4403 is unclear and may have unintended consequences because a "State Historic Site" recognition does not exist in state law or through PRT or DAH, and, therefore, this bill may require these agencies to develop new policies and procedures to give proper recognition to such a site.

Finally, I want to thank Rep. Davenport for his efforts to honor this important site in Spartanburg County and also encourage him to work with PRT and DAH on an appropriate way to recognize the site's significance.

For these reasons, I have vetoed H. 4403, R-199.

Sincerely,

Mark Sanford