August 8, 2003

The Honorable André Bauer
President of the Senate
State House, 1st Floor, East Wing
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

I am hereby returning without my approval S. 521, R-144, an Act:

TO AMEND ACT 1201 OF 1968, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE LEXINGTON COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION, SO AS TO DELETE THE PROHIBITION THAT A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

This veto is based on my belief that this bill is unconstitutional. S. 521, R-144 proposes to allow members of the Lexington County Recreation Commission to serve the term for which they were elected and two additional terms. As such, S. 521, R-144, affects only Lexington County and is, therefore, clearly an act for a specific county. Such acts are in violation of Article VIII, Section 7 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina, which provides that “[n]o laws for a specific county shall be enacted.” Acts similar to S. 521, R-144 have been struck down by the South Carolina Supreme Court as violative of Article VIII, Section 7.

For this reason, I am returning S. 521, R-144 to you without my signature.

Sincerely,

Mark Sanford
Governor