



## State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267  
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June 11, 2010

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

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate,

I am hereby vetoing and returning without my approval, S. 783, R. 303, which adds three members to the Governing Board of the Patriots Point Development Authority. We are vetoing this legislation based on our belief that it further blurs the lines between executive and legislative powers in our state government.

In 2005, we vetoed a bill that increased the number of legislative appointments to the State Board of Medical Examiners because we believed the legislation expanded legislative power at the expense of the executive branch and needlessly politicized the State Board of Medical Examiners. Similarly, we object to S. 783 because it further erodes the executive branch's authority to appoint the state's executive branch officials.

Currently, the governor is authorized to appoint three board members of his choosing, and to appoint two board members based on the recommendation of legislative leaders within the House and Senate. S. 783 adds three additional board members who must be appointed "upon recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one appointed upon recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one appointed upon recommendation of the State Adjutant General." Frankly, if someone other than the governor is going to handpick the majority of the board members and the Legislature will subsequently approve the governor's "appointments," then the whole process is reduced to little better than busy work for our office. Because the governor is currently required to appoint two board members based on legislative recommendations, we do not see the benefit in adding additional board members within legislative control.

Additionally, although the current board may have its detractors, it generally has not been accused of being "political" in nature. This bill threatens to change that perception, as board members might be seen as answering to their particular sponsor. This is particularly troublesome in light of the proposed monuments that many suggest have much to do with this proposed

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change. We believe that perception would be damaging for the Board's reputation and effectiveness.

For these reasons, I am vetoing and returning without my approval S. 783, R. 303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Sanford', written in a cursive style.

Mark Sanford