May 28, 2008

The Honorable André Bauer  
President of the Senate  
State House, First Floor, East Wing  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

I am vetoing and returning without my approval S. 1161, R-286.

This veto is based on my belief that this bill is unconstitutional. S. 1161 allows funds from the Marion Court Library to be used for operating expenses of the Marion County court system. This legislation affects only Marion 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 this legislation have been struck down by the South Carolina Supreme Court as violative of Article VIII, Section 7.

For this reason, I have vetoed S. 1161, R-286.

Sincerely,

Mark Sanford