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SOUTH CAROLINA
State of the State



Governor Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.

January 30, 1991

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STATE DOCUMENTS

1991 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MY WIFE IRIS AND MY SONS, MY FELLOW SOUTH CAROLINIANS.

IT IS MY HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO AGAIN REPORT TO YOU ON THE STATE OF THE STATE.

BUT FIRST IT IS APPROPRIATE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS PERILOUS MOMENT IN WORLD HISTORY.

I WILL NEVER FORGET TWO WEEKS AGO TONIGHT. MINUTES BEFORE MY SCHEDULED ADDRESS, WE RECEIVED WORD THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS AT WAR.

I THEN CAME UP TO ANNOUNCE POSTPONEMENT OF MY STATE OF THE STATE MESSAGE AND I LOOKED INTO YOUR EYES. I SAW SADNESS AND CONCERN, BUT I ALSO SAW UNITY.

IT WAS DRIVEN HOME FOR ME A FEW MINUTES LATER WHEN A LONG-TIME LEGISLATIVE OPPONENT ASKED TO SEE ME. HE TOLD ME IN SO MANY WORDS DESPITE OUR DEEP POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, HE WANTED TO STAND SHOULDER TO SHOULDER FOR OUR COUNTRY.

I DON'T WANT TO EMBARRASS HIM BY CALLING HIS NAME, BUT THAT GESTURE SAID IT ALL.

WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, WHEN YOU STRIP AWAY MOMENTARY PRESSURES AND POLITICS, WE ARE LEFT WITH ONE UNASSAILABLE TRUTH: WE STAND UNITED WITH WHAT ABE LINCOLN CALLED "THE LOVE OF LIBERTY WHICH GOD HAS PLANTED IN OUR BOSOMS."

WHILE THE PROTESTERS GET THE HEADLINES, THEY ARE BUT A SPOT IN A SEA OF RED, WHITE AND BLUE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE UNITED BEHIND THEIR PRESIDENT AND TROOPS.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT WE REMEMBER SENATORS PHIL LEVENTIS AND MIKE MULLINAX AND REPRESENTATIVE JIM HARRISON--OUR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY.

I ASK YOU TO STAND FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER FOR THESE MEN AND ALL OF OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING THEIR COUNTRY TONIGHT.

PLEASE STAND.

AMEN. PLEASE BE SEATED.

THIS IS NOT A NORMAL YEAR, AND THIS WILL NOT BE A NORMAL MESSAGE. MANY MATTERS WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THIS DISTINGUISHED BODY AND I WILL BE WORKING WITH YOU TO ADDRESS THEM.

HOWEVER, I HAVE CHOSEN TO USE MY LIMITED TIME TONIGHT TO DISCUSS FIVE CRITICAL AND COMPLEX ISSUES WHICH WILL LARGELY DETERMINE THE STATE OF THE STATE IN FUTURE YEARS.

WE HAVE THE TIGHTEST BUDGET YEAR I'VE EVER FACED.

IT IS THE YEAR FOR REAPPORTIONMENT.

WE HAVE URGENT ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS.

AND FINALLY, GOVERNMENT ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY. THE CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY--TRUST AND CONFIDENCE--IS CRACKED.

THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF QUEEN ESTHER'S RULE IN TURBULENT TIMES OF ANCIENT ISRAEL GIVES US ENCOURAGEMENT. AS SHE FACED DANGEROUS AND CRITICAL DECISIONS, SHE RECEIVED A BOLD EXHORTATION FROM MORDECAI, WHICH ENNOBLED HER TO FACE THE CHALLENGES.

THE WORDS OF MORDECAI TO ESTHER? "AND WHO KNOWS WHETHER YOU HAVE NOT ATTAINED ROYALTY FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?"

MY WORDS TO YOU TONIGHT: AND WHO KNOWS WHETHER YOU HAVE NOT ATTAINED LEADERSHIP FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?

LET HISTORY RECORD THAT WE WERE THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME, AND THAT WE MADE THE RIGHT DECISIONS.

IF RECENT PROBLEMS DICTATE CHANGE, LONGSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS BY THIS BODY DICTATE CONTINUATION.

I'M TALKING ABOUT RECORD-BREAKING YEARS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH WHICH PRODUCED 200 THOUSAND NEW JOBS AND A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE.

I'M TALKING ABOUT POLICIES THAT MANY OF YOU VOTED FOR WHICH HELPED MAKE SOUTH CAROLINA THE TOP SOUTHERN STATE IN PERSONAL INCOME GROWTH.

I'M TALKING ABOUT POLICIES THAT NOT ONLY FORSOOK GENERAL TAX INCREASES, BUT ACTUALLY CUT THEM FOR THE WORKING POOR.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE HARM DONE BY THE FEW IN THIS BODY CANNOT NEGATE THE GOOD DONE BY THE MANY.

THE YEAR-END REPORT BY THE BOARD OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS SHOWS CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT GROWTH FOR SOUTH CAROLINA--IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE NATION AS A WHOLE.

1990 WAS THE THIRD BEST YEAR EVER WITH ANNOUNCED CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF TWO-POINT SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS.

THAT MEANS 11-THOUSAND-800 DIRECT NEW JOBS, 52 PERCENT OF WHICH ARE GOING TO RURAL SOUTH CAROLINA. SIGNIFICANTLY, 16 PERCENT OF THE JOBS ARE COMING FROM THE CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS/OFFICE SECTOR.

THAT'S A DIRECT RESULT OF THE LEGISLATION WE WROTE TO DIVERSIFY OUR ECONOMIC BASE, AND I CONGRATULATE YOU FOR YOUR WORK.

BUT WE ARE NOT IMMUNE FROM THE NATIONAL DOWNTURN.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT BASED ON CURRENT BEA PROJECTIONS, WE CAN HANDLE THE SHORTFALL WITHOUT DISRUPTIVE MIDYEAR BUDGET CUTS. WE ARE IN GOOD SHAPE COMPARED TO MOST OTHER STATES.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE MONEY TO DO EVERYTHING WE WOULD LIKE.

YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE BUDGET PROPOSALS FROM THE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 91-92.

THE CHOICES ARE SIMPLE: RAISE TAXES, CUT EDUCATION OR SLIGHTLY REDUCE THE BUDGETS OF THOSE AGENCIES WHICH HAVE GOTTEN THE LARGEST INCREASES IN RECENT YEARS.

RAISING TAXES IN A RECESSION IS LIKE TURNING ON THE AIR CONDITIONER IN A SNOWSTORM. I ASK YOU TO REJECT ATTEMPTS TO RAISE TAXES SO WE DON'T BECOME PART OF THE PROBLEM.

I'VE HEARD SOME SAY JUST FREEZE EVERYTHING INCLUDING EDUCATION. NO PAY RAISE FOR TEACHERS, NO INCENTIVE TO IMPROVE TEACHING SKILLS, NO TEXTBOOKS.

PUTTING EDUCATIONAL REFORM IN THE DEEP FREEZE, EVEN FOR ONE YEAR, WILL AGAIN INSTITUTIONALIZE MEDIOCRITY AND WE MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO THAW OUT.

I HAVE TAKEN A VERY FIRM AND PUBLIC STANCE FOR THE THIRD OPTION: SLIGHT CUTS IN AGENCIES THAT RECEIVED THE LARGEST BUDGET

INCREASES IN RECENT YEARS TO PROTECT EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY. SOME OF THESE INCREASES RUN 40 PERCENT OR MORE JUST IN THE LAST TWO YEARS.

I WANT IT UNDERSTOOD THAT I'M NOT STANDING UP FOR TEACHERS AT THE EXPENSE OF ANY OTHER GROUP. I'M STANDING UP FOR CHILDREN AND THE LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA PASSED RIGHT HERE BEFORE I TOOK OFFICE.

THESE LAWS ACKNOWLEDGE EDUCATION TO BE THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL PROGRAM IN SOUTH CAROLINA, AND WE DARE NOT TURN THE CLOCK BACK.

LAST YEAR I SUBMITTED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION A PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL, BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO DEAL WITH IT. I AGAIN OFFER IT TO YOU.

THIS BILL REINFORCES THE PARENT-SCHOOL RELATIONSHIP, AND REAFFIRMS TRADITIONAL FAMILY VALUES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

THERE ARE OTHER PRIORITIES LARGELY DICTATED BY SOCIETY ITSELF.

SOUTH CAROLINA HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST RATES OF INCARCERATION IN THE COUNTRY.

WE HAVE A HIGH CRIME RATE AND SOME OF THE TOUGHEST PRISON SENTENCES ANYWHERE.

WE EITHER HAVE TO CONTINUE BUILDING PRISONS OR CHANGE SOME OF THE LAWS FOR NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS—ONE OR THE OTHER.

BUT WE CANNOT JEOPARDIZE OUR CITIZENS BY STACKING UP THE INMATES AND NOT GIVING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS THE RESOURCES TO MANAGE THEM.

A MATTER I HAVE ADDRESSED BEFORE HAS AGAIN SURFACED. THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES IS UNDER COURT CHALLENGE.

I AM ASKING YOU TO EXEMPT BOTH CORRECTIONS AND DYS FROM BUDGET CUTS, GIVE THEM ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION AND MAKE NEW FACILITIES FOR YOUTH SERVICES THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IN THE BOND BILL.

THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR THOSE CHILDREN. MORE THAN EIGHTY PERCENT COME FROM BROKEN HOMES. MOST DON'T KNOW SIMPLE THINGS LIKE LOVE AND CHURCH AND FAMILY.

IF WE DO NOT HELP THEM NOW, MOST WILL GRADUATE TO THE ADULT CORRECTIONS SYSTEM, IMPOSING A HUGE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BURDEN ON THE STATE.

I ASK YOU NOT TO ABANDON THESE CHILDREN. I ASK YOU TO HELP THEM.

YOU AND I NEED TO BE AWARE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FEDERAL HEALTH CARE MANDATES. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MANDATES A NATIONAL STANDARD FOR POVERTY. SOUTH CAROLINA IS HELD TO THE SAME DEFINITION AS NEW YORK OR CALIFORNIA, THOUGH OUR COST OF LIVING IS NOT NEARLY AS HIGH.

SO DRAMATIC IS OUR SPENDING THAT BY THE END OF THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR, 60-PERCENT OF ALL PREGNANT WOMEN AND BABIES BORN IN SOUTH CAROLINA WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR TAXPAYER-FUNDED HEALTH CARE.

THIS MEDICAID PROGRAM NOW COVERS UP TO 185 PERCENT OF POVERTY, TIED FOR THE HIGHEST IN NINE SOUTHEASTERN STATES THAT WERE SURVEYED.

SOME IN WASHINGTON KEEP PRESSURING THE STATES TO LIBERALIZE AND SPEND IN ORDER TO GET THROUGH THE BACK DOOR WHAT THEY CAN'T GET THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR. AND THAT'S NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

LET US HELP THOSE WHO CAN'T HELP THEMSELVES. BUT LET'S NOT SPEND OURSELVES INTO BANKRUPTCY BECAUSE WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HELP ANYBODY.

A BASIC RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS BODY IS TO GUARANTEE EQUALITY IN THE VOTING BOOTH. THIS IS THE YEAR TO REAPPORTION LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS REFLECTING THE SHIFTS IN POPULATION.

IT IS IMPERATIVE TO DRAW DISTRICTS THAT ADHERE TO THE ONE MAN-ONE VOTE PRINCIPLE, DISTRICTS THAT PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY REGARDLESS OF RACE OR PARTY AFFILIATION, AND DISTRICTS THAT ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY DRAWN TO FAVOR INCUMBENTS.

AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE UNDER THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT, MEANING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT MUST APPROVE WHAT WE DO.

IN THIS REGARD THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS SENT SIGNALS THAT IT WILL BE WARY OF A PLAN THAT DOES NOT CONTAIN A BLACK MAJORITY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

I SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE WISE TO DRAW SUCH A DISTRICT RATHER THAN HAVE THE COURTS REAPPORTION OUR STATE FOR US.

THE TIME WAS 1951. GOVERNOR JAMES F. BYRNES LOOKED AT SOUTH CAROLINA'S CRAZY-QUILT PATTERN OF 12 HUNDRED SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE UNEQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES THEY PROVIDED.

HE DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO CHALLENGE THE POWER STRUCTURE BY RESTRUCTURING AND CONSOLIDATING.

IN HIS 1951 INAUGURAL ADDRESS, GOVERNOR BYRNES PROCLAIMED, "WE SHOULD DO IT BECAUSE IT IS RIGHT. FOR ME, THAT IS SUFFICIENT REASON." THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL BOARDS WAS REDUCED BY MORE THAN A THOUSAND.

FORTY YEARS LATER AN HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY AWAITS ANOTHER LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO RESTRUCTURE AN OUTDATED FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS TIME TO RECOGNIZE THAT STATE GOVERNMENT IS NOT DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO ANYONE ELECTED BY ALL OF THE PEOPLE.

IT IS A GOVERNMENT RUN BY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, SOME APPOINTED BY ME, OTHERS BY YOU. SOME FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, OTHERS FROM JUDICIAL CIRCUITS. SOME WITH MANY MEMBERS, OTHERS WITH FEW.

LET ME PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE. AT THE GENESIS OF THIS SYSTEM OF FRAGMENTED GOVERNMENT, THE STATE BUDGET WAS LESS THAN A MILLION DOLLARS. SOUTH CAROLINA'S POPULATION WAS A LITTLE MORE THAN A MILLION. THE PRIMARY HORSEPOWER WAS THE FOUR-LEGGED KIND.

WHAT SERVED THE STATE THEN CHOKES IT NOW.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COORDINATE RESOURCES. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT DUPLICATION.

WHY SHOULD WE HAVE 11 NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES, WITH 11 PERSONNEL DEPARTMENTS, 11 ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENTS AND 11 DIFFERENT BUREAUCRACIES?

WHY DO WE HAVE TEN AGENCIES DEALING WITH DIFFERENT PARTS OF COMMERCE?

OUR SYSTEM SQUANDERS TAX DOLLARS AND FRAGMENTS SERVICES.

THIS ISN'T A NEW REVELATION. ONE OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S MOST FAMOUS HISTORIANS, THE LATE DAVID DUNCAN WALLACE, CONCLUDED, QUOTING, "THE GOVERNOR IS DENIED POWER TO EXECUTE LAWS HE IS SWORN TO UPHOLD."

AND ROBERT FIGG, JUNIOR, A FORMER LEGISLATOR AND DEAN OF THE USC LAW SCHOOL, WROTE IN 1951, QUOTING AGAIN, "THE GOVERNOR POSSESSES LITTLE OR NO POWER TO CONTROL OR DIRECT THE GREATER PART OF THE STATE'S EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES."

MORE RECENTLY IN 1988, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR THEODORE'S COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE RECOMMENDED STRENGTHENING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO PROVIDE WHAT IT CALLED "FOCUSED ACCOUNTABILITY."

TONIGHT I AM SUBMITTING TO YOU A PLAN TO RESTRUCTURE GOVERNMENT. IT CREATES TEN CABINET-LEVEL DEPARTMENTS ANSWERABLE TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE SO THAT WE MAY HAVE THAT FOCUSED ACCOUNTABILITY.

THIS IS LARGELY A POST-CARROLL CAMPBELL PROPOSAL. I DO NOT SEEK IT FOR MYSELF. I SEEK A MORE RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLE WHO PAY FOR IT.

I HAVE BY EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATED THE COMMITTEE TO IMPLEMENT RESTRUCTURING. LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR THEODORE AND HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DAVID WILKINS HAVE AGREED TO SERVE AS CO-CHAIRMEN.

WE WILL SEEK LEADERS FROM BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT AND THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY TO TAKE MY IDEAS, ALONG WITH OTHERS, AND HAMMER OUT A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT.

I'M NOT WEDDED TO EVERY DETAIL IN MY PROPOSAL. A STRONG CASE CAN BE MADE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO MAKE AGRICULTURE A SEPARATE CABINET-LEVEL AGENCY TO REFLECT ITS IMPORTANCE.

BUT I AM WEDDED TO THE CONCEPT OF RESTRUCTURING.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT A PANEL CHAIRED BY A DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN CAN HAVE THE LEGISLATION PREPARED AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS READY FOR THE VOTERS IN 1992.

CHANGE CAN BE DANGEROUS BUSINESS. MORE DANGEROUS, HOWEVER, IS BUSINESS AS USUAL.

LET US NOT DEBATE POWER OR PERKS. LET US INSTEAD FORGE A NEW GOVERNMENT--A GOVERNMENT THAT HEARS THE PEOPLE, RESPONDS TO THE PEOPLE AND IS ACCOUNTABLE DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE.

AS JIMMY BYRNES SAID, "WE SHOULD DO IT BECAUSE IT IS RIGHT." AND THAT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT REASON FOR US ALL.

WHILE I'M AT IT LET ME SAY THAT THOSE AGENCY BOARDS APPOINTED BY JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ARE NOT EQUALLY REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE BECAUSE THE JUDICIAL CIRCUITS DO NOT EQUALLY REPRESENT THE PEOPLE.

THE LARGEST CIRCUIT, THE 13TH CIRCUIT, CONTAINS 408 THOUSAND PEOPLE, WHILE THE SMALLEST, THE 6TH CIRCUIT, HAS ONLY 105 THOUSAND.

WE MUST GUARANTEE THAT EVERY PART OF SOUTH CAROLINA IS REPRESENTED EQUALLY ON THESE POLICY-MAKING BOARDS.

RECENTLY I HAVE READ WITH GREAT INTEREST COMMENTS FROM CERTAIN LEGISLATORS ABOUT SEPARATION OF POWERS. I'M GLAD THEY BROUGHT IT UP.

IF YOU WANT TO TALK SEPARATION OF POWERS, LET'S TALK ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SERVING ON EXECUTIVE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

THE SEPARATION OF POWERS PROVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION IS A MYTH WHEN LEGISLATORS VOTE ON AN AGENCY'S BUDGET, VOTE ON LAWS GOVERNING THE AGENCY AND THEN VOTE ON AGENCY POLICY AS BOARD MEMBERS.

DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS BACK LEGISLATION PROHIBITING LEGISLATORS FROM SERVING ON AGENCY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. I URGE YOU TO STOP THIS PRACTICE BECAUSE IT MOCKS THE SEPARATION OF POWERS PRINCIPLE.

GOVERNMENT REFORM IS ESSENTIAL TO RESTORE ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE. AND ETHICS REFORM IS ESSENTIAL TO RESTORE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE.

WE ALL KNOW THERE'S A CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE TODAY. OURS IS A BLEEDING STATE, RIPPED OPEN BY SCANDAL.

BUT WHERE CRISIS ABOUNDS, SO ABOUNDS OPPORTUNITY EVEN MORE.

AUTHOR DENNIS WAITLEY WRITES THAT THE CHINESE SYMBOLS FOR CRISIS ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE FOR THE WORD OPPORTUNITY. LITERALLY TRANSLATED IT READS, "CRISIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY RIDING THE DANGEROUS WIND."

AN APT DESCRIPTION FOR OUR SITUATION TODAY.

LET HISTORY WRITE OF THIS BODY, "IT RODE THE DANGEROUS WIND. IT FACED THE STORM. AND IN THE NAME OF DECENCY AND INTEGRITY, THE 1991 GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECAPTURED ITS GOOD REPUTATION AND AGAIN MADE THE PEOPLE PROUD."

I AM SUBMITTING DRAFT ETHICS AND CAMPAIGN REFORM LEGISLATION FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. I HAVE TAKEN MANY OF THESE PROPOSALS RIGHT FROM FEDERAL LAW, WHICH HAS WITHSTOOD COURT CHALLENGE.

THE BOTTOM LINE TO MEANINGFUL REFORM IS OPENNESS. JUSTICE BRANDEIS SAID SUNSHINE IS THE BEST OF DISINFECTANTS.

THE PUBLIC DOES INDEED HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW, AND, IF THEY KNOW, THEY CAN MAKE JUDGMENTS.

THERE SHOULD BE FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS WELL IN ADVANCE OF ELECTIONS.

THERE SHOULD BE STRICT RULES TO LIMIT CASH CONTRIBUTIONS.

WE MUST HAVE REASONABLE RULES GOVERNING LOBBYISTS, INCLUDING DISCLOSURE OF THEIR EXPENSES.

BUT LET'S NOT KID OURSELVES: BANNING A FREE HAMBURGER AND CALLING IT REFORM IS LIKE TREATING LUNG CANCER WITH COUGH SYRUP.

THERE MUST BE FULL DISCLOSURE OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS.

IF WE REALLY WANT TO GET AT THE HEART OF ETHICS, THEN WE'LL REQUIRE COMPLETE DISCLOSURE OF FEES--LEGAL AND LAY ALIKE--AND WE'LL LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHO'S GETTING PAID TO DO WHAT AT STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

AS WE CONSIDER REFORM, WE MUST ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SOUTH CAROLINA HASN'T HAD THE MECHANISM TO POLICE ITSELF. WHEN THEY REJECTED LIMITING THE SCOPE OF THE STATEWIDE GRAND JURY LAST NOVEMBER, THE VOTERS SENT US A MESSAGE.

EVEN IF WE CAN'T FUND IT THIS YEAR, I ASK THAT YOU PASS THE NECESSARY LAWS EMPOWERING THE STATEWIDE GRAND JURY TO INVESTIGATE PUBLIC CORRUPTION.

THERE'S ONE OTHER RELATED MATTER I'D LIKE TO ADDRESS. YOU ARE CITIZEN LEGISLATORS. MANY OF YOU MAKE GREAT SACRIFICES FROM YOUR JOBS AND FAMILIES TO SERVE HERE.

BUT LONG LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS MEAN FEWER SOUTH CAROLINIANS CAN CONSIDER THE OPTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE. THIS IS WRONG.

GOOD GOVERNMENT DICTATES A LIMITATION OF EACH LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO NO MORE THAN 40 DAYS, AND I ASK YOU TO APPROVE SUCH A LIMITATION.

EVEN AS WE WORK TO CLEAN UP THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT, SO MUST WE CONTINUE WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S UNIQUE GEOGRAPHY PROVIDES US WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF FRESHWATER WETLANDS. UNDERLYING THEIR CHARM AND BEAUTY IS A REMARKABLE USEFULNESS THAT WE SAW WHEN MUCH OF LAST YEAR'S FLOODING WAS STOPPED AS THE WETLANDS ABSORBED EXCESS WATER.

EFFORTS TO PROTECT OUR WETLANDS DIED LAST YEAR WHEN SOME REFUSED TO ACCEPT A BALANCED NO-NET-LOSS APPROACH. WE SHOULD REVISIT THE WETLANDS ISSUE THIS YEAR AND ADOPT REASONABLE PROTECTION STANDARDS.

NOR CAN WE FAIL AGAIN TO HEED THE WARNINGS ABOUT SOLID WASTE. I COMMEND THE COUNTLESS SOUTH CAROLINA FAMILIES WHO HAVE MADE RECYCLING A PART OF THEIR LIVES.

THEY UNDERSTAND THAT WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO THROW AWAY BECAUSE, AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, THERE IS NO AWAY.

WE CAN EITHER ADDRESS THE SOLID WASTE PROBLEM NOW IN A METHODOICAL WAY, OR WE CAN ACT IN CRISIS WHEN OUR LANDFILLS ARE USED UP IN A FEW YEARS.

I SAY LET US ACT NOW--THIS YEAR--BY ADOPTING TOUGH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION THAT EMPHASIZES RECYCLING.

AND FINALLY, THERE IS HAZARDOUS WASTE. SOUTH CAROLINA HAS MOVED AS RESPONSIBLY AS WE KNOW HOW.

TOGETHER, WE DREW THE LINE, SAYING SIMPLY THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO DO OUR FAIR SHARE WHILE EXPECTING OTHERS TO DO THEIRS.

I NEGOTIATED A SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL AGREEMENT TO SHARE THE BURDEN. YOU CODIFIED THE BANS AND LIMITS OF MY EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND WE INSTITUTED A PHASED-IN REDUCTION FOR THE PINWOOD LANDFILL.

AND WHEN A STATE RENEGED ON ITS PART OF THE AGREEMENT, WE DID THE ONLY HONORABLE THING WHEN A PARTNER BREAKS HIS WORD: WE EXPELLED THE PARTNER.

BUT ALL OF OUR WORK HAS BEEN NULLIFIED BY A FEDERAL JUDGE.

HIS RULING IN ESSENCE SAYS A STATE CAN'T STOP ANY KIND OF GARBAGE FROM CROSSING ITS BORDERS AND BEING DUMPED.

IT MEANS A STATE HAS NO CONTROL OVER ITS OWN DESTINY. THE RULING PUNISHES RESPONSIBILITY, AND REWARDS IRRESPONSIBILITY.

AND IT PUTS CORPORATE PROFITS ABOVE PUBLIC GOOD.

I TELL YOU TONIGHT THAT SOUTH CAROLINA WILL NOT BE RUN OVER BY JUDICIAL EXCESS. WE WILL APPEAL THIS RULING ALL THE WAY TO THE SUPREME COURT IF NECESSARY AND WILL DO EVERYTHING WITHIN OUR POWER TO RESTORE SANITY TO THIS PROCESS.

BUT WE ARE WORKING ON OTHER FRONTS. I HAVE WRITTEN OUR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION SEEKING LEGISLATION FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH EXISTS FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE.

BASICALLY I AM SAYING THAT IF INTERSTATE COMMERCE PERMITS REGIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE, AND PENALTIES FOR STATES VIOLATING THEIR AGREEMENT, THEN HAZARDOUS WASTE SHOULD BE NO DIFFERENT.

AND I WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO FOLLOW ITS OWN POLICIES BY PENALIZING STATES WHICH ARE UNABLE TO SHOW ADEQUATE CAPACITY.

SUPERFUND MONEY SHOULD BE WITHHELD FROM ANY STATE UNTIL IT IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND UNTIL IT SITES ITS OWN HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES.

AS IN THE PAST I WANT TO WORK WITH YOU IN FINDING OTHER SOLUTIONS. BUT I PLAN TO DO ONE MORE THING. WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS IT IS MY INTENTION TO GO TO WASHINGTON TO SPEAK

DIRECTLY WITH EPA ADMINISTRATOR BILL REILLY AND WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS.

I SHALL ASK FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S HELP IN ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HAZARDOUS WASTE POLICY: A POLICY THAT IS FAIR, A POLICY THAT INVOLVES ALL STATES AND A POLICY THAT DOES NOT PUNISH STATES SUCH AS SOUTH CAROLINA THAT ARE TRYING TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT.

AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE THERE ARE MANY QUESTIONS THAT CANNOT BE ANSWERED TONIGHT.

BUT AS THOMAS CARLYLE SAID, "OUR MAIN BUSINESS IS NOT TO SEE WHAT LIES DIMLY AT A DISTANCE, BUT TO DO WHAT LIES CLEARLY AT HAND."

THE ISSUES I HAVE ADDRESSED ARE CLEARLY AT HAND.

THE YEAR WILL NOT BE EASY. BUT LET US TAKE COURAGE, FOR WE POSSESS A RICH HERITAGE OF TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITY.

IT IS LITERALLY CARVED IN STONE ON THE SIDE OF THIS BUILDING, WHERE GOLD STARS MARK THE CANNONBALL HITS.

IT IS WRITTEN IN DIARIES, SUCH AS EMMA LECONTE'S, WHO, AFTER THE BURNING OF COLUMBIA, PENNED THE WORDS, "THE VERY AIR IS FRAUGHT WITH SADNESS AND SILENCE."

OUR HERITAGE IS NOT MOLDED WITH CLAY, BUT FORGED IN STEEL. OUR HISTORY IS NOT ONE OF SIMPLY ACCEPTING DIFFICULTIES, BUT OVERCOMING THEM.

LET US GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS AT HAND: BOLSTERED BY OUR HERITAGE, COMMITTED TO OUR PURPOSE, AND CONFIDENT OF OUR CALLING.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM AND GOD BLESS YOU.