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**South Carolina House of Representatives**

*Jennifer L. Dobson  
Research Director*

*Cathy A. Greer  
Administration Coordinator*

**Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
Telephone: (803) 212-6810 • Fax: (803) 212-6811  
Room 228 Blatt Building**

*Charles L. Appleby IV  
Legal Counsel*

*Carmen J. McCutcheon  
Research Analyst*

February 4, 2016

Commissioner Hugh E. Weathers  
South Carolina Department of Agriculture  
Post Office Box 11280  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Legislative Oversight Study of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture

Dear Commissioner Weathers:

In conducting these Studies, it is the Legislative Oversight Committee's goal to partner with the agency to help it identify areas in which it can continue to improve upon the positive results it has generated for the people of South Carolina.

In the near future, the Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources and Subcommittee will schedule a meeting with your agency to discuss preliminary matters relating to the Study of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture. During this preliminary meeting, Representative Phyllis J. Henderson will explain the Committee's expectations. In addition, the agency will have an opportunity provide a brief overview of its programs and ask questions.

The Committee wants to ensure the agency has as much information as possible and ample opportunity to review materials prior to the meeting. Therefore, enclosed is a flow chart with an overview of the process the Committee intends to follow, copy of the Committee's Rules and copy of the Committee's Standard Practices (please note these may be modified). Also, below is a brief summary of the expectations.

The Committee expects an agency to inform its staff that the agency is undergoing the legislative oversight study process as well as the purpose of the study. The Committee expects an agency to appoint a liaison to assist the Committee with all activities. The Committee expects an agency to respond to its requests in a concise, complete and timely manner. The Committee expects an agency to be candid with it and to promptly discuss with the

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Committee any concerns or questions the agency may have related to the legislative oversight study process, including any concerns the agency may have that the Committee has drawn an incorrect conclusion.

I hope the information above and enclosed is helpful to you and your agency in understanding the process the Committee intends to following in conducting the Study. Please do not hesitate to contact me, Representative Henderson, or Committee staff, if you have any questions or concerns about the Study.

Sincerely,



Signature Redacted

Wm. Weston J. Newton  
Chairman, House Legislative Oversight Committee

Enclosures

cc: Representative Phyllis J. Henderson