

R. Wes Hayes, Jr.
Chairman

Rusty L. Monhollon, Ph.D.
President & Executive Director



December 21, 2023

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

This letter is sent to provide an update on the status of the SmartState[®] Program annual report and audit. As you are aware, S.C. Code Ann. § 2-75-10, requires the SmartState[®] Review Board to provide an annual report by November 30 of each year to the General Assembly as well as the State Budget and Control Board, which shall include an audit performed by an independent auditor. The audit report was scheduled to be completed prior to the deadline of November 30, 2023, however, the independent auditor indicated that the retirement of longstanding research university SmartState[®] Program liaisons and expanded operational and quality control measures have delayed submission of the report.

Our preliminary discussion with the auditor indicates that the fieldwork and the initial audit draft is in the final review phase. However, we request that the deadline for submission of the SmartState[®] annual report and audit be extended until January 15, 2024.

The plan is to finalize and distribute comprehensive drafts of the report before the January 15 extension to ensure sufficient time for detailed review and submission.

Please contact Dr. Argentini Anderson at (803)856-0511 or aanderson@che.sc.gov if you have any questions.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

/s/ Argentini Anderson

Argentini Anderson, Ph.D.
SmartState[®] Program Administrator



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