

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

One Town Center Court, Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

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David Bennett
Mayor

January 31, 2017

Kim W. Likins
Mayor ProTem

House Labor, Commerce & Industry Committee Members
Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Council Members

David Ames
Marc A. Grant
William D. Harkins
Thomas W. Lennox
John J. McCann

Re: H. 3529-Auxiliary Containers

Dear House Committee on Labor, Commerce, and Industry Member:

Stephen G. Riley
Town Manager

As Mayor of the Town of Hilton Head Island, I have become aware of H. 3529. I understand it currently resides in your committee and that a hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, February 1, 2017. I have informally surveyed several Town Council Members regarding my concerns with the Bill.

As you consider this matter, please also hear the voices of those who oppose the heavy-handed pre-emption this Bill represents. I have heard from several of our constituents and the Coastal Conservation League all of whom oppose H. 3529. Hilton Head Island enjoys an internationally renowned reputation as an excellent steward of our environment, a reputation we could not have realized unless we also enjoyed the authority granted to us by Home Rule. Our community strives hard to meet the needs of the current generation without degrading, damaging, or destroying the natural resources and natural services that future generations will also need. If H. 3529 becomes law, the Town will be handcuffed in fulfilling its critical role of protecting its environment.

I understand the benefits of uniformity in statewide legislation e.g. in regulating texting. H. 3529 does not equate to the recent statewide texting while driving prohibition or the like. Local communities ought to determine what's best for them since our policy decisions are grounded in the expectations of our residents.

Thank you for your service to the State of South Carolina, and the Town of Hilton Head Island looks forward to working with you on this and other matters during this legislative session.

Sincerely,



David Bennett, Mayor

CC: Town Council
Stephen G. Riley, ICMA-CM., Town Manager
Gregory D. DeLoach, Esq., Assistant Town Manager
Beaufort County Legislative Delegation Members
Reba Campbell, Deputy Executive Director, MASC
Tigerron Wells, Government Affairs Liaison, MASC
Melissa Carter, Research & Legislative Liaison
Stu Rodman, Beaufort County Governmental Committee