



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE Box 12267
COLUMBIA 29211

February 15, 2005

The Honorable David H. Wilkins
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

I am hereby returning without my approval H. 3356, R-5, an Act:

TO AMEND ACT 587 OF 1994, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE CHESTERFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, SO AS TO INCREASE FROM SEVEN TO NINE THE MEMBERS ON THE BOARD.

This veto is based on my belief that this bill is unconstitutional. H. 3356, R-5 proposes to change the composition of the Chesterfield County Board of Elections by increasing its membership from seven to nine members. As such, H. 3356, R-5, affects only Chesterfield 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 H. 3356, R-5 have been struck down by the South Carolina Supreme Court as violative of Article VIII, Section 7.

For this reason, I am returning H. 3356, R-5 to you without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

Mark Sanford
Governor