

Anderson County Legislative Delegation

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District No. 4
Chairman



Senate

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District No. 3

House of Representatives

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District No. 6
Vice Chairman

John T. "Jay" West
District No. 7

Jonathon D. Hill
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House of Representatives

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District No. 9
Secretary

Westley P. "West" Cox
District No. 10

Craig A. Gagnon
District No. 11

December 3, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator
130 South Main Street, 7th Floor
Greenville, SC 29601

Dear Senator Graham:

The members of the Anderson County Legislative Delegation would like to request your assistance with a matter of great concern. It has come to our attention that the General Services Administration, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and United States District Court of for the District of South Carolina plans to relocate the operations of the G. Ross Anderson, Jr. Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse to a new facility under construction in Greenville.

As you are aware, the G. Ross Anderson Federal Building is located at 315 McDuffie Street in Downtown Anderson. The resident judge in the Honorable Timothy Cain from neighboring Oconee County.

We were admittedly surprised to learn that such a plan was given any serious consideration, much less a *fait accompli*. We believe such a move will have serious ramifications on our community.

Far from the sleepy agricultural community of yore, Anderson County is a powerful regional economic development center, having recruited more than \$3.54 billion in capital investment and 5,600 jobs created over the past decade. The dozens upon dozens of multi-state and multi-national corporations operating within Anderson County need prompt and efficient access to the various services available only through the federal judiciary. The demand for these services will only grow as Anderson County continues to thrive as a significant hub of commerce and industry.

Anderson is an emerging population center, with over 200,000 residents and more arriving each year. With untrammled population growth occurring in Greenville County, we believe it highly likely that the new Federal facility in Greenville will soon be hard-pressed to meet the demands placed upon it by that county's population. Considering what will happen when the populations of Anderson and Spartanburg counties are added to Greenville's existing demand for services, we

find it hard to believe that this new facility will adequately serve its proposed regional constituency.

Further, the G. Ross Anderson Federal Building is located in the City of Anderson's central business district. You have personally witnessed the renaissance that has occurred in Anderson over the past twenty years and heard the success stories of the many businesses that have invested in Downtown Anderson. Any relocations of existing public operations in the area would be disruptive even under optimum economic conditions, and we hope you agree that such action should, in particular, be avoided in this especially harsh period of economic disruption.

Finally, please consider the historical significance of the G. Ross Anderson Federal Building. Built in 1938, the structure is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a significant community landmark.

We appreciate the argument that, in general, smaller historic buildings are unable to achieve the operational and rehabilitation economies of scale that larger buildings do; however, as stated in a federal document entitled EXTENDING THE LEGACY: GSA HISTORIC BUILDING STEWARDSHIP, such buildings where economy-of-scale concerns come to fore, "are more likely to be located in remote or depopulating areas where market based rents are insufficient to fund appropriate care and reinvestment".

Surely, we can all agree that Anderson is neither a remote nor de-populating area.

We respectfully request that you look into this matter and provide us any kind of guidance or assistance that you can as we work to protect our community's interest in keeping the location of the United States District Court of South Carolina at the G. Ross Anderson Federal Building.

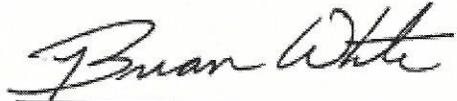
Kindest Regards,



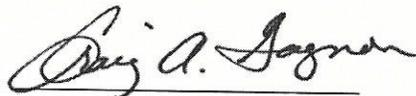
Westley P. "West" Cox, Chairman



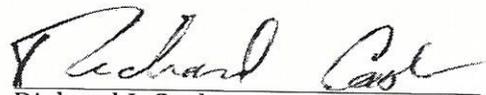
Michael W. Gambrell



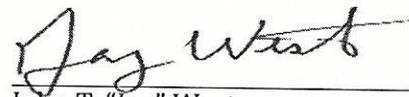
W. Brian White



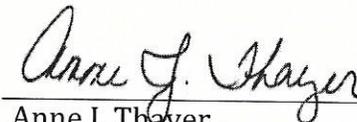
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