State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

May 23, 2011

The Honorable Ken Ard
President of the Senate
State House, First Floor, East Wing
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

I am vetoing and returning without my signature S.232, R-47, a bill that reinstates Certificate of Need (CON) requirements under the authority of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to certain facilities focused on the treatment of narcotics addiction.

I am vetoing this bill because I believe the Certificate of Need program creates unnecessary regulation for the healthcare market. The CON process allows government to ration care, stifle competition in the medical field, and pick which facilities and practices are allowed to succeed.

While I understand that this bill is designed in-part to control the growth of treatment facilities that distribute controlled substances, these facilities are already highly regulated and do not need additional licensure.

For the reasons stated above, I am vetoing S.232, R-47.

Sincerely,

Nikki R. Haley