

HENRY DARGAN McMaster GOVERNOR

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Bruce W. Bannister 525 Blatt Building Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Chairman Bannister:

I have signed into law R-71, H. 3973, which pertains to composition of the Greenville Health System Board of Trustees ("GHS Board"). As you are aware, H. 3973 amends Act No. 432 of 1947, as amended, so as to update the House of Representatives' districts that constitute house district residency seats on the GHS Board.

Like several of my predecessors, I have consistently vetoed local or special legislation that is clearly unconstitutional. Therefore, I carefully consider all such legislation presented to me and scrutinize the same in view of the applicable law. Here, based on a review of H. 3973 and other relevant authorities, it appears that this bill is necessary to "best meet the exigencies of [this] particular situation," and it is not readily apparent how a general law could be made applicable without being overbroad in its scope, given that this legislation addresses the specific House districts, counties, or municipalities in which board members must reside. *Charleston Cnty. Sch. Dist. v. Harrell*, 393 S.C. 552, 559, 713 S.E.2d 604, 608 (2011). After comparing the old and new language, it appears that this change to the GHS Board's composition was necessary to account for legislative redistricting following the 2020 Census. Although I do not believe H. 3973 is clearly unconstitutional on its face, given the General Assembly's regular reliance on—and the recurring nature of—special legislation, I encourage you and your colleagues to address similar issues in the future by passing general laws of uniform, statewide application whenever possible.

For the foregoing reasons, I have signed H. 3973 into law. I look forward to continuing to work with the General Assembly to address these and other similar issues on a statewide basis.

Yours very truly,

Henry Dargan McMaster

HDM/tal/wgl

cc: Greenville County Legislative Delegation