



HENRY DARGAN McMASTER  
GOVERNOR

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.  
111 Gressette Building  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Chairman Peeler:

I have signed into law R-55, S. 618, which pertains to the Board of Public Works for the City of Gaffney ("Board").

As you know, S. 618 amends Act No. 389 of 1907, as amended, so as to restate the composition of the Board by adding two members. Although this bill addresses a predominately local concern, it appears that the Board's service area "extends beyond the confines of one county." *Fort Hill Nat. Gas Auth. v. City of Easley*, 310 S.C. 346, 350, 426 S.E.2d 787, 789 (1993). Therefore, because the Board is not necessarily "peculiar to a county," I am persuaded that S. 618 does not constitute impermissible special legislation. *Kleckley v. Pulliam*, 265 S.C. 177, 185, 217 S.E.2d 217, 221 (1975); *see* 2003 WL 21998992, at \*3 (S.C.A.G. July 31, 2003). Accordingly, I do not believe that this bill is clearly unconstitutional. Nevertheless, 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 S. 618 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Henry D. McMaster".

Henry Dargan McMaster

HDM/tal/ews

cc: Cherokee County Legislative Delegation