State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

June 18, 2012

The Honorable Dwight A. Loftis
522C Blatt Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Representative Loftis,

I am writing to let you know that today I signed R286, H.3506, a bill that provides equitable treatment for manufacturers of plastics and rubber products, such as tires.

Some opponents of this bill have likened it to last year's so-called "Amazon" legislation, which became law without my signature. I reject this analogy. While the Amazon bill created inequities by subsidizing major retailers at the expense of their smaller competitors, your bill instills the opposite effect, by providing uniform tax treatment for tire manufacturers who do not benefit from it today. I have signed your bill because it creates a level playing field for an entire industry, instead of targeting favorable tax treatment for one firm to the detriment of its in-state peers.

My Executive Budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year recommended – and showed how to pay for – $140 million in tax cuts for South Carolina's families and businesses. Although I am disappointed that the full package was not passed into law during this year's session, I am encouraged by the House of Representatives' efforts to embed tax cuts within the enacted budget, and am pleased to sign H.3506 into law to help spur job creation and retention in South Carolina.

My very best,

Nikki R. Haley

cc: Members of the General Assembly