

**A RESOLUTION OF  
THE SOUTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY  
In Support of Election Law Reform Efforts**

Passed May 18, 2012 by the SCGOP Platform and Resolutions Committee

**WHEREAS**, the South Carolina Republican Party is extremely distressed over the recent candidate filing issue resulting in the removal of many Republican candidates from the primary ballots; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Nikki Haley joined the state party in expressing her distress and dismay over the issue; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Haley asked the state party to partner with her and the General Assembly to immediately address the issue in a manner that returns all candidates to the June 12<sup>th</sup> ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, the cause of the debacle was not a failure of the Republican Party, but instead the cause was a system failure resulting from state laws that must be promptly amended by the General Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Senate has passed a law that effectively takes control of candidate filing away from the Republican Party and transfers all filing to state and county election commissions; and

**WHEREAS**, political parties are private groups and deserve the right to oversee the filing process to ensure candidates subscribe to the tenets of our South Carolina Republican Party Platform, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, state party leadership and staff work with the Platform and Resolutions Committee, the Rules Committee and Republican members of the South Carolina House and Senate to provide a list of needed reforms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, we call upon the General Assembly to fix current election law by allowing candidates to file for public office by providing ONE FORM only, along with any requisite filing fees, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, the South Carolina Republican Party calls upon all Republicans to actively lobby their elected officials on behalf of this resolution, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, the South Carolina Republican Party calls upon all Republican elected officials to vigorously pursue options to restore all candidates to the June 12<sup>th</sup> primary ballot.