



State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267
COLUMBIA 29211

June 11, 2010

The Honorable Robert W. Harrell, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

I am hereby vetoing and returning without my approval H. 4187, R. 323, which deletes the 25-year maximum time period for leases between local airports and private parties.

It goes without saying and has been long demonstrated over the tenure of this administration that we are fans of private investment and private activity over the work of government. In this regard, we applaud the spirit of this bill. We're also fans of the marketplace and open competition, and for this reason I'm compelled to veto this bill which would add five years on lease periods.

We do so because in many instances there is but one Fixed Based Operator (FBO) at many airports across our state. In that regard, they are sanctioned monopolies for the operations of many county airports. In other cases there have been attempts to roll up several FBO operations in a given city or county with multiple airports, some argue to impact fuel or other pricing. Given this hypothetical threat to the consumer, we believe leaving the maximum lease timing at 25 years is prudent collectively for airports across our state, as this allows for a greater possibility of new entrants and operators.

For this reason, I am vetoing and returning without my approval H. 4187, R. 323.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mark Sanford".

Mark Sanford