



BEAUFORT, SC

REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On Wednesday, June 17, 2015 an act of pure hatred tore the heart of South Carolina apart and changed the lives of many. Nine innocent people lost their lives and our community and our state as a whole will never be the same. This unimaginable tragedy was intended to create a disastrous divide amongst South Carolinians, yet our resilient community came together to heal in a way our state has never seen before. The Confederate flag is a part of South Carolina's undeniable history and more appropriately belongs memorialized in a museum. Only a united South Carolina can rebuild after this insurmountable heartbreak.

The Beaufort Chamber of Commerce advocates for the removal of the Confederate flag from the State House grounds and joins local and state leadership in calling for the General Assembly to find a swift solution to do so. The Beaufort Regional Chamber further believes that the flags of the state of South Carolina and the United States of America, represent the sovereignty under which the state of South Carolina exists, and should be the only flags displayed at the State House. The Beaufort Regional Chamber believes that the removal of the flag represents the unification and collaboration of our region's citizens, businesses and leaders to act for the greater good of all South Carolinians.

The Beaufort Regional business community calls upon the General Assembly to expeditiously deal with this issue. The Beaufort Regional Chamber mourns for those affected by the tragedy in Charleston, and we commend South Carolinians for responding with grace and unity. Beaufort, Port Royal and the Sea Islands of South Carolina are a great place to live, work and do business. This effort will only make it better.