



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
THE SENATE
COLUMBIA

GLENN F. MCCONNELL
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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April 6, 2009

Via Facsimile: 202/225-3407

The Honorable Henry E. Brown, Jr.
103 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515-4001

Dear Henry:

I am writing to you in support of a request for funds sent to you by Patriots Point Development Authority. Patriots Point makes a substantial and much needed economic impact on the lowcountry and the State. Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum is an enterprise State agency and receives no federal or State appropriations. They must raise the entire budget to operate and maintain this facility through admission fees, gift shop sales, and fundraising. The cost to maintain four ships, all sitting in salt water, is no small issue.

I am sure that you have met General Hugh Tant who accepted the position as Executive Director in 2008. He and his new management team have adopted a vision and plan for this museum that is exciting and worthy of our support. However, they are now struggling to address a series of expansion and maintenance projects totaling \$64.6 million. Once this phase is completed, they will be able to implement their master plan that will provide an annual economic impact to the community of \$250 million in business earnings. This potential is only going to be realized through an effective partnership of federal, State, and private support. Patriots Point is implementing an aggressive fundraising campaign. I would greatly appreciate it if you would lend your support to this effort by placing Patriots Point as a priority as you consider the upcoming 2010 federal budget.

The Medal of Honor Museum on the USS Yorktown features a timeless quote by Abraham Lincoln: *Any nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure.* That message encapsulates why Patriots Point is important to our State and nation.

The Honorable Henry E. Brown, Jr.
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With warmest personal regards and many thanks, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn F. McConnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "G".

Glenn F. McConnell

GFM:rkg