

**RESOLUTION OF THE SALUDA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY CONDEMNING SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S DECISION TO BAR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR PAMELA EVETTE FROM DELIVERING ITS COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette is the duly elected Lieutenant Governor of the State of South Carolina and a statewide constitutional officer chosen by the people of this State; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina State University had invited Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette to serve as commencement speaker for its Spring 2026 graduation ceremony; and

WHEREAS, after protests and political pressure, South Carolina State University announced that it had decided to “move in a different direction” and that Lieutenant Governor Evette would no longer deliver the commencement address; and

WHEREAS, this action represents a shameful surrender to political intimidation and an affront to the principles of free expression, civic respect, and open debate; and

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education should be places where differing viewpoints may be heard and considered, not places where public officials are silenced because activists object to their beliefs; and

WHEREAS, disinviting the Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina from a public commencement ceremony sends a deeply divisive message to students, families, and citizens across this State that some voices are unwelcome in the public square; and

WHEREAS, the Saluda County Republican Party believes that civil discourse, respect for constitutional office, and the free exchange of ideas are indispensable to both education and self-government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saluda County Republican Party strongly condemns South Carolina State University's decision to bar Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette from speaking at its commencement ceremony; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saluda County Republican Party expresses its full support for Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette and commends her service to the people of South Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saluda County Republican Party calls upon the leadership and Board of Trustees of South Carolina State University to reaffirm their commitment to viewpoint diversity, civil discourse, and respect for all duly elected constitutional officers of this State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saluda County Republican Party rejects the growing practice of silencing, disinviting, or deplatforming public officials and speakers on the basis of political disagreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of South Carolina, the Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, the Saluda County Legislative Delegation, the Chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, the President of South Carolina State University, and the Chairman of the South Carolina State University Board of Trustees.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, by the Saluda County Republican Party.