

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, South Carolina State Senator Jake M. Knotts was found to have committed the following violations of laws regulating the handling and use of campaign funds as detailed in the Public Reprimand of September 1, 2010 entitled, "The Matter of the South Carolina Senate Ethics Committee's Complaint Against Senator John M. Knotts, Jr."; and

WHEREAS, 1. "Senator Knotts accepted and deposited into his campaign checking account campaign contributions from individuals and entities that were in excess of the statutory limit."; and

WHEREAS, 2. Senator Knotts knowingly falsified legally required documentation in that he "reported on his Campaign disclosure Reports certain campaign contributions in a manner that was inconsistent with the actual name of the contributor and the actual amount of the contribution."; and

WHEREAS, 3. Senator Knotts knowingly falsified legally required documentation in that he ". . . failed to report on his Campaign Disclosure Reports numerous contributions from individuals and entities."; and

WHEREAS, 4. ". . . Senator Knotts made cash withdrawals from his campaign checking account and failed to report these withdrawals and the subsequent expenditure of these funds on his Campaign Disclosure Reports; and

WHEREAS, 5. ". . . Senator Knotts earned interest on his campaign's certificate of deposit accounts and failed to report such interest as a contribution."; and

WHEREAS, 6. ". . . Senator Knotts held campaign funds in a certificate of deposit accounts with his spouse in the capacity of joint tenants with a right of survivorship."; and

WHEREAS, 7. ". . . Senator Knotts failed to report on his Campaign Disclosure Reports various campaign loans and campaign loan repayments."; and

WHEREAS, 8. Senator Knotts failed to properly report many other expenses and contributions; and

WHEREAS, after a hearing on August 9, 2010 ". . . the Committee deliberated and concluded that, based on competent and substantial evidence presented at the hearing, Senator Knotts committed each of the alleged violations . . . and issue[d] a public reprimand;" and

WHEREAS, citizens of the State of South Carolina not holding office in the South

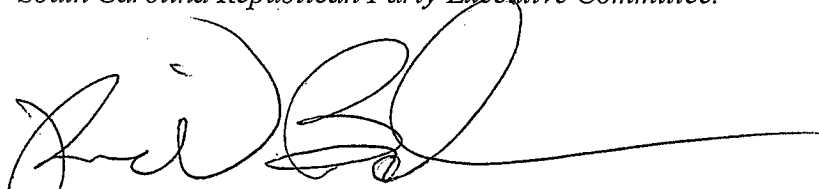
Carolina General Assembly would be and are routinely more severely punished for crimes of a similar nature, especially for knowingly committing multiple fraudulent acts when filling out legally required documentation; and

WHEREAS, being a state that was one of the original thirteen states that formed the republic known as the United States of America and which was formed on the basis of the concept of "equality under the law" as documented in the Declaration of Independence in that "all men are created equal" and multiple other writings by the Founders;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lexington County Republican Party Executive Committee that:

1. The public reprimand and the corrective actions set forth by the South Carolina Senate Committee for the many fraudulent and illegal actions of South Carolina State Senator Jake M. Knotts are grossly inadequate and that Senator Knotts should have been expelled from the South Carolina State Senate as a matter of course due to his multiple counts of malfeasance.
2. The South Carolina House and Senate Ethics Committees are called upon by the Lexington County Republican Party Executive Committee to investigate and audit each member of the General Assembly to determine if further gross and criminally fraudulent acts have been committed on a routine basis such as that behavior documented above committed by Senator Jake M. Knotts.
3. The South Carolina General Assembly is called upon by the Lexington County Republican Party Executive Committee to change state law so that individual members of that body can no longer be protected from criminal prosecution as could be pursued by the courts of this state if a citizen of South Carolina, who does not hold office in that body, were to have committed similar fraudulent acts in violation of the law involving legally required documentation and large amounts of money.
4. South Carolina State Senator Jake M. Knotts is censured by the Lexington County Republican Party Executive Committee.
5. South Carolina State Senator Jake M. Knotts is called upon by the Lexington County Republican Party Executive Committee to immediately resign from his elected office.

RESOLVED this 6th day of June, 2011 at The regular meeting of the Lexington County, South Carolina Republican Party Executive Committee.



Richard Bolen
Chairman