



Press Release  
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## **Fletcher Smith Proves Once Again He is an Ineffective Representative** *District 23 Residents Deserve a Leader who Works with Them*

Greenville, SC – Yesterday, Fletcher Smith introduced House Bill 5176 which would limit school resource officers' arrest powers in response to the incident that happened at Lakeview Middle School. In sponsoring this bill, Smith stated that he believes that the resource officers are "heavy-handed" and "need to have sensitivity training". He went on to say that the Legislature would impose some "common sense in the law" since the incident at Lakeview was a "simple matter."

"Once again, Fletcher Smith has demonstrated his lack of leadership and effectiveness as our State Representative," stated Chandra Dillard. "He has introduced a bill that has no chance of passing and to place blame on our school safety officers and limit their powers in an effort to grandstand on the issue. If he is concerned about this issue, he should have been working on the real problem of determining why a judge wasn't available for a hearing so these girls did not have to sit in jail for four days."

"All we have been hearing about from my opponent Fletcher Smith is how much power he has as a member of the House Judiciary Committee," continued Dillard, "Well, where was that power in helping these two girls obtain a hearing while they were sitting in jail?"

Also happening yesterday in the House of Representatives, two Upstate judges were defeated in Court of Appeals elections.

"My opponent keeps saying that his seats on the House Judiciary Committee and the Judicial Merit Selection Commission are important so that he can keep getting Upstate judges elected to the bench," stated Chandra Dillard. "Well, once again, where was his leadership yesterday when Judge Jenkins and Judge Hayes needed it?"

"District 23 residents deserve a representative who will not just point fingers and try to make headlines, but a true leader who will work with the community to build partnerships and correct issues before they become real problems," concluded Dillard.

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