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Administrator, Town of Kiawah Isl.  
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Administrator, Town of Edisto Beach

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Linda Lovvorn Tucker, Ex-Officio  
Former Administrator, Isle of Palms  
Bill Otis, Ex-Officio  
Former Mayor, Pawley's Island  
Will Connor, Ex-Officio  
Formerly w Kiawah Island Comm. Assn.

Nicole Elko, Ph.D., Exec. Director  
President, Elko Coastal Consulting  
Science Director, American Shore and  
Beach Preservation Assn.

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## PRESS RELEASE

February 7, 2023

South Carolina Beach Advocates  
[www.scbeaches.org](http://www.scbeaches.org)

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(843) 371-7082

The purpose of this conference is to alert the press to the need for a dedicated state fund for beach preservation. The press conference will include the resilience, flood mitigation, economic, and environmental benefits of our state beaches. Join us:

**February 15, 2023**

9:45 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, S.C. State House, 1100 Gervais St, Columbia, SC 29208

- Beaches increase resilience and reduce flooding and storm damage costs – acting like levees along our coast.
- South Carolinians in every county in the state own a 2<sup>nd</sup> home on the South Carolina coast.
- Beaches are a statewide treasure that need a strategic, long-term investment in cyclic maintenance.
- Beach tourism generates state revenue. In 2022, S.C.'s 5 coastal counties generated:
  - \$82.6 million in State Accommodations Taxes,
  - \$31.1 million in State Admissions Taxes, and
  - Over 50% of State Sales Taxes.
  - This revenue far outweighs the state's cost of beach maintenance (renourishment) - about \$10 million per year.

### Participants

Members of the South Carolina Beach Advocates Board of Directors

Senator George E. "Chip" Campsen, III, District 43  
Senator Stephen L. Goldfinch, District 34  
Representative William G. "Bill" Herbkersman, District 118  
Representative Lee Hewitt, District 108  
Representative Elizabeth "Spencer" Wetmore, District 115  
Representative Joe Bustos, District 112  
Representative Thomas C. "Case" Brittain, Jr., District 107  
Representative Matthew Leber, District 116