



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 12, 2012**

## **Dick Riley Joins Upstate Forever Advisory Council**

### ***Former SC Governor and US Secretary of Education to Assist Local Conservation Organization***

Upstate Forever is pleased to announce the addition of **Richard W. Riley** to its Advisory Council. Riley is the former U.S. Secretary of Education (1993–2001) and former Governor of South Carolina (1979–1987). Secretary Riley currently is a senior partner in the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough and its affiliate, EducationCounsel, with offices in South and North Carolina, Georgia, Boston, Chicago, Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. He has been appointed distinguished professor at Furman University, and serves as Advisory Board chair of the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership. Riley earned his bachelor's degree, cum laude, in political science from Furman in 1954 and received a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1959. In 2008, Riley was named one of the Top 10 Cabinet Members of the 20th Century by *Time* magazine.

“Secretary Riley has provided extraordinary leadership for both our state and nation,” said Brad Wyche, Upstate Forever Executive Director. “We are deeply honored to have him on our Advisory Council.”

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**Upstate Forever** is a nonprofit, membership-based organization promoting sensible growth and the protection of special places in the Upstate region of South Carolina. Our three program areas are: Land Trust, Sustainable Communities, and Clean Air and Water. Founded in 1998, **Upstate Forever** now has over 1,800 members, two offices, and a staff of 18. For more information, see [www.upstateforever.org](http://www.upstateforever.org).

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Photo attached.