

**Mary Poole**  
*State Director*  
**Patrick Maley**  
*Deputy Director*  
**Rufus Britt**  
*Associate State Director*  
*Operations*  
**Susan Kreh Beck**  
*Associate State Director*  
*Policy*  
**W. Chris Clark**  
*Chief Financial Officer*



**COMMISSION**  
**Gary C. Lemel**  
*Chairman*  
**Barry D. Malphrus**  
*Vice Chairman*  
**Robin B. Blackwood**  
*Secretary*  
**Eddie L. Miller**  
**Stephanie M. Rawlinson**  
**David L. Thomas**

3440 Harden Street Ext (29203)  
PO Box 4706, Columbia, South Carolina 29240  
**803/898-9600**  
**Toll Free: 888/DSN-INFO**  
**Home Page: [www.ddsn.sc.gov](http://www.ddsn.sc.gov)**

Reference Number:	800-05-CP
Title of Document:	South Carolina Disabilities and Special Needs Public Invocation Act
Date of Issue:	October 16, 2008
Effective Date:	October 16, 2008
Last Review Date:	August 20, 2020
Date of Last Revision:	August 20, 2020 <b>(REVISED)</b>

---

Whereas, the South Carolina General Assembly amended The Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding § 6-1-160 so as to enact the “South Carolina Public Invocation Act” to allow a governing body to adopt a policy for an opening invocation before each meeting. The invocation must not promote nor disparage any one faith or belief.


Whereas, the act signifies the General Assembly’s belief that deliberate public bodies in the state may adopt policies that will permit public invocations in a constitutionally permissible fashion.


Now therefore;

The South Carolina Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) on this date, during a regular monthly Commission meeting adopted the following policy:

1. At the Chairman’s discretion, a public invocation at the beginning of monthly Commission Meetings or Sub-Committee Meetings as defined in Subsection (A) (1) of the South Carolina Public Invocation Act is permitted.
2. An invocation is allowed to be offered on a voluntary, rotating basis by a Commissioner.

This policy takes effect upon adoption by the DDSN Commission.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry D. Malphrus  
Vice Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary C. Lemel  
Chairman