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Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

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Lewis Carter Research Analyst/Auditor

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July 11, 2022

VIA EMAIL Michael Leach, Director S.C. Department of Social Services P.O. Box 1520 Columbia, SC 29202 michael.leach@dss.sc.gov; connelly.ragley@dss.sc.gov

Dear Director Leach:

The House Legislative Oversight Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Subcommittee is currently performing an oversight study of the Attorney General's Office. The purpose of legislative oversight is to determine if agency laws and programs are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of the General Assembly and whether they should be continued, curtailed, or even eliminated. Any House Member may file legislation to implement the Committee's recommendations.

The purpose of this letter is to seek input from your office about the questions attached. If your office would like to provide input, which would be appreciated, please do so before Friday, July 29, 2022. Additionally, the subcommittee welcomes any other input or feedback your office would like to provide.

Sincerely,

E.

Representative Chris Wooten Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Subcommittee

Questions to Department of Social Services

- 1. Please provide the following numbers, to the extent known, regarding Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud (See, <u>Attorney General's General Prosecution presentation to the House Legislative</u> <u>Oversight Committee</u>, Slide 13)
 - a. Number of cases referred to the Attorney General's Office each year in fiscal years 2018 and 2019
 - b. Number of cases referred to Solicitor's offices each year in fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022
 - i. Of the cases referred, percentage of cases targeting the SNAP recipient and percentage targeting the retailer.
 - c. Number of cases prosecuted by Solicitor's offices each year in fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- 2. Please provide the potential pros and cons of referring cases in the future to the Solicitor's Offices.
- 3. Please provide the potential pros and cons of referring cases in the future to the Attorney General's Office.