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Cathy A. Greer Administration Coordinator

Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

Post Office Box 11867 Columbia, South Carolina 29211 Telephone: (803) 212-6810 • Fax: (803) 212-6811

Room 228 Blatt Building

William K. (Bill) Bowers Neal Collins Raye Felder William M. "Bill" Hixon Ralph W. Norman Robert L. Ridgeway III James E. Smith Jr. Edward R. Tallon Sr. Robert Q. Williams

Charles L. Appleby IV Legal Counsel

Carmen J. McCutcheon Simon Research Analyst/Auditor

February 21, 2017

VIA EMAIL and U.S. MAIL

Director Marci Andino State Election Commission Post Office Box 5987 Columbia, South Carolina 29250

Dear Director Andino:

The Executive Subcommittee met for a work session on February 15, 2017. Listed below are questions as a follow up to the meeting, as well as the status of the study.

Information Requested

Please provide the following information by Friday, March 3, 2017.

Voter Fraud

- o Have there ever been any verified cases of voter fraud in South Carolina?
- What actions does the state take to try and prevent voter fraud?
- o How does the state investigate allegations of voter fraud?
- O How does the state address circumstances of voter fraud, when it is found to have occurred? If it has never been found to have occurred, what would the state do to address the situation if found in the future?

Local v. State Responsibilities

- o Please provide a side by side bulleted list of which aspects of elections are the responsibility of the State Election Commission v. Local Election Officials.
- o Please explain who serves as the governing body over the local election officials and if there are any differences among them.
- O Please provide a list of the training local election officials are required to complete. Please note if any of the training is required on a regular basis (e.g., annually, before each election, etc.).
- o What steps are taken to ensure local officials obtain this training?
- O Please provide a table which includes the following: (1) under the first column, a list of common complaints received from the public regarding the election process; (2) under the second column, human issues, if any, that may cause the situation from which each of the common complaints arise; (3) under the third column, equipment or mechanical issues, if any, that may cause the situation from which each of the common complaints arise; and (4) under the fourth column, current laws, if any, that may cause the situation from which each of the common complaints arise.

In your responses to these questions, please provide the subcommittee with any relevant, necessary context information. If the agency has any concerns about the format yielding answers that do not provide an accurate reflection of the agency, please express those concerns prior to responding to the question, in a written letter with a copy to staff for the subcommittee. Please retain your working papers for these responses in the event the subcommittee would like to view those. As a reminder, responses to the questions above, as well as responses to any other requests, are considered sworn testimony and subject to S.C. Code of Laws Sections 2-2-70 through 2-2-120.

Status of Study

The following bullets briefly summarize the status of the study. This information is based on actions of the committee and agency actions, which were communicated to Committee staff. Please send a letter or email to Committee staff if the agency believes any of the information below is incorrect.

- Agency was notified it is under study
- Public survey was opened
- Agency notified its employees that the agency is under study and a public survey is open
- Agency received the Program Evaluation Report guidelines

Next Steps

The next steps in the study are listed below.

- Public input meeting on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 1:00pm in Room 110, Blatt Building
- Public survey closes on Monday, March 13, 2017
- Program Evaluation Report is due on Friday, March 31, 2017
- Subcommittee meetings with the agency begin in April 2017

To assist in the scheduling of Subcommittee meetings, please provide all dates the agency is unavailable to meet during April through June, 2017. Please note, members of the Executive Subcommittee expect the agency head to attend subcommittee and full committee meetings involving the agency.

The subcommittee looks forward to working collaboratively with the agency during the oversight process. Thank you and your team for your service to the citizens of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Signature Redacted

Gary E. Clary Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Laurie Slade Funderburk

The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton The Honorable Robert Q. Williams