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Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

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September 15, 2022

VIA EMAIL and U.S. MAIL
The Honorable Curtis M. Loftis, Jr.
State Treasurer
Post Office Box 11778
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Treasurer Loftis:

The House Legislative Oversight Economic Development, Natural Resources, and Transportation Subcommittee is currently performing an oversight study of the Jobs Economic Development Authority. Additionally, the House Legislative Oversight Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Subcommittee is in the process of finishing its 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 the State Treasurer's Office (STO) about the process of approving attorneys for certain work. If your office would like to provide input, which would be appreciated, please do so before Thursday, September 22, 2022. Additionally, the subcommittee welcomes any other input or feedback your office would like to provide.

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Questions

- 1. Please provide the following information related to the STO's approved list of bond and issuer counsel:
 - a. Criteria utilized by the STO to determine the quantitative and qualitative strengths of prospective JEDA trustees;
 - b. Method and timeframe in which attorneys can apply to be added to the list;
 - c. Minimum qualifications for consideration to the list, if any;
 - d. Information requested and reviewed by the STO to determine which attorneys are added;
 - e. Personnel (i.e., divisions or job title rather than specific names) at the STO who determine which attorneys are added;
 - f. Process utilized by the STO to determine which attorneys remain on the approved list;
 - g. Examples of reasons for which attorneys are not selected for inclusion; and
 - h. Examples of reasons for which attorneys have been removed from the list.
- 2. Would the STO have any concerns about publishing online a process flow chart illustrating the process explained in response to question 1, and keeping the information updated.
- 3. Does the STO approve the rates bond and issuer counsel can charge?

Thank you for your service to the citizens of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Bill Hixon

Subcommittee Chair

Bill Higon

cc: Economic Development, Natural Resources, and Transportation Subcommittee The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton