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November 13, 2019

The Honorable Molly Spearman Superintendent of Education 1429 Senate Street Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Via Email

RE: Follow-up questions from the Subcommittee meeting with the agency on November 4, 2019

Dear Superintendent Spearman:

The Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee appreciates the Department of Education's continued partnership in the oversight process. As a follow-up to the meeting on November 4, 2019, please provide the requested information by Friday, November 22, 2019.

Chief Finance Office

- 1. Please provide position descriptions for all Chief Finance Office personnel and note the number of FTE's by position.
- 2. Please list all third-party entities receiving direct state appropriations through the Department of Education.
- 3. Please provide a travel reimbursement report for in-state and out-of-state travel. Also, please include in this report what percentage of travel is in-state versus out-of-state.
- 4. Please provide the methodology used to determine the correlation between total deliverable expenditures and the associated equivalent FTEs.

Office of Career and Technical Education

5. When was the most recent update to State Board of Education regulation referenced in the agency's presentation (meeting packet page 96) on November 4, 2019?

Office of Early Learning and Literacy

- 6. Please list the members of the Learning Disorders Task Force.
- 7. What type of services or resources are provided by the agency to the homeschool community? Please provide information related to the cost associated with providing these services.

Addressing Barriers for Student Achievement

- 8. What steps, if any, has the agency taken to research and address the issue of environmental racism and how it impacts children's educational processes?
- 9. Does the agency have a plan to address the school-to-prison pipeline trend that especially impacts students of color in our public education system? If yes, please provide an overview of the plan.
- 10. Does the agency have a plan to address the student achievement gap between rural and affluent areas? If yes, please provide an overview of the plan.
- 11. What is the agency's position on the current funding model for education? What issues should be included in any discussions to reform the education funding model? What recommendations, if any, does the agency have for addressing any student educational and resources gaps within the current funding model?

In responding to these questions, please remember the Committee's expectations, which are provided in Committee <u>Standard Practice 9</u>. The Subcommittee looks forward to working collaboratively with the Department of Education. Thank you and your team for your service to the people of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.

cc: Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee