Robin Smith STATE REPRESENTATIVE ^{26TH} LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 425 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Cordell Hull Building, Suite 644 Nashville, Tennessee 37243 615-741-2548 (Office)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE OF TENNESSEE

COMMITTEES Insurance Health Civil Justice

NASHVILLE

SUBCOMMITTEES

Insurance Sub Health Sub

EMAIL: rep.robin.smith@capitol.tn.gov



March 2, 2022

The Honorable Herbert Slatery, III Attorney General Tennessee Capitol Nashville, TN 37243

General Slatery,

Please accept thanks for your leadership and service to the great people of Tennessee.

On behalf of the taxpayers and citizens of our great State, please opine on the separation of powers, as enumerated in the Tennessee Constitution Article II, that is materially impacted through the practices of various departments, agencies and entities governed by rules promulgated by the Tennessee General Assembly which, in turn, work in opposition to the voice and votes of the people of Tennessee.

Specifically, applying the definition in TCA 3-6-301 (15)(A) which states, "Lobbying means to communicate, directly or indirectly, with any official in the legislative branch for the purpose of influencing any legislative action or administrative action," please opine to the aforementioned constitutionally enumerated and protected rights in relation to the current practices of liaisons, department personnel and appointed officials, including but not limited to, Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and department and division heads who actively work through communications - spoken and written - to oppose, defeat and influence legislative proposals. Oftentimes, these State employees of the Executive Branch are working in tandem with registered lobbyists sharing talking points, sharing meetings with Members and coordinating efforts.

Please make your correspondence in response to this official inquiry directed to all the signatories of this request on behalf of the constitutional rights of Tennesseans.

With regards,

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Representative Robin T. Smith House District 26

Representative Dan Howell House District 22

John ()

Representative John D. Ragan House District 33

Representative Tim Rudd House District 34

Representative Scott Cepicky House District 64

Representative Chris Todd House District 73

Jesthen Helton

Representative Esther Helton House District 30

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Representative Bud Hulsey House District 2