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S.C. SUPREME COURT

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August 18, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk, Supreme Court of South Carolina
1231 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: *S.C. Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, No. 2026-000032 (S.C.)

Dear Ms. Howard:

Under Rules 217 and 240(a), SCACR, Defendants move for leave to argue against precedent. In Part I of their brief, Defendants ask the Court to hold that the public importance exception is unconstitutional. *See* Red Br. 9–21. Although this Court has never addressed the constitutionality of that exception directly, the Court has applied the exception before. *See, e.g., Eidson v. S.C. Dep’t of Educ.*, 444 S.C. 166, 177, 906 S.E.2d 345, 350 (2024); *Adams v. McMaster*, 432 S.C. 225, 236, 851 S.E.2d 703, 708–09 (2020). Therefore, to ensure that no procedural hurdle precludes oral argument on this issue, Defendants request permission to argue against precedent as it concerns the public importance exception.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Grayson Lambert".

Wm. Grayson Lambert
Chief Legal Counsel

cc: Counsel of Record (via email only)