

July 7, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY:

The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse
South Carolina Supreme Court Clerk of Court
1231 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RECEIVED

JUL - 7 2016

Re: Abbeville County School District, et al. v. The State of **SC SUPREME COURT**
Appellate Case No.:2007-65159

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

I am writing in response to Plaintiffs' request to respond to the Joint Report submitted last week by the Senate and the House pursuant to the Court's Order of November 5, 2015. Please advise the Court that the Senate and the House object to the request for leave to respond. As Plaintiff correctly observe, the Order does not provide for a response, and the Senate and the House do not believe a reply is appropriate. The Joint Report is neither a brief nor an argument, but is simply a factual account of what transpired during the last legislative session as requested by the Court. It would be inappropriate to re-open the case for further argument at this point.

I appreciate the Court's attention to this issue.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Stepp

cc: Via E-Mail Only:

Carl B. Epps, Esquire
Elizabeth Scott Moise, Esquire
Rachel Atkin Hedley, Esquire
Laura C. Hart, Esquire
J. Emory Smith, Esquire
Swati Shah Patel, Esquire