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October 5, 2018

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Andy Penry  
Chairman  
North Carolina State Board of Elections  
430 North Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603-1362

RE: October 17, 2018 State Board of Elections Meeting

Dear Chairman Penry:

I am writing on behalf of Senator Ralph Hise and the Ralph Hise for NC Senate ("Committee") with regard to the October 17, 2018 hearing that has been scheduled by the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement ("Board"). We were advised two days ago by Board staff that the Board will consider at the hearing a matter regarding payments by the Committee to Senator Hise.

In order to respond properly to the allegations made regarding Senator Hise and the Committee, it is crucial that we present the testimony of the Committee treasurer during the applicable periods, Shirley Hise. Ms. Hise, who is the Senator's mother, was the treasurer of the Committee from its formation in 2009 until May 15, 2017. She calculated the amounts that were paid to Senator Hise for mileage reimbursements, which are the center of the Board's inquiry. Senator Hise cannot make a full and fair presentation to the Board without the testimony of the Committee treasurer.

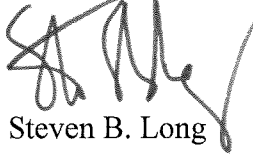
This past Tuesday, Ms. Hise was admitted to Mission Hospital – St. Joseph Campus in Asheville due to complications from her cancer treatments. She is not able to walk and currently has serious health issues that will not allow her to come to Raleigh on October 17 to appear at the hearing. I am advised that we should know in a couple of weeks the prognosis for her recovery. For that reason, I respectfully request that the Board delay a hearing on the matter involving Senator Hise and his Committee until Ms. Hise has recovered.

WARD AND SMITH, P.A.

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If you would like more details regarding this request, please contact me. I look forward to your response to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Long', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven B. Long

cc: Senator Ralph Hise (via electronic mail)  
Ms. Kim Strach, Executive Director, State Board of Elections (via electronic mail)  
John Bruce, Esq., State Board of Elections (via electronic mail)  
Amy B. Ellis, CPA (via electronic mail)