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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION**

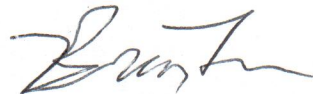
April 24, 2018

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations:

On behalf of the State Ethics Commission, I am submitting to you a draft of general principles of governmental ethical conduct, as per Section 9 of No. 79 of the Acts of the 2017 General Assembly. Act No. 79 also requires the State Ethics Commission, after considering all recommendations, to create a final version of the State Code of Ethics by July 1, 2018.

In drafting these general principles, the Ethics Commission reviewed and considered the Code of Federal Regulations Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, consulted with members of the Council of Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL), and researched many other state codes of ethics, specifically those of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Ohio, Texas and Oregon. We look forward to discussing this draft with you.

Thank you,



Brian Leven