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IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania, et al., Petitioners,))) Civ. No. <u>261 MD 2017</u>)
v.)
The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, et al., Respondents.	

RESPONDENTS MICHAEL C. TURZAI AND JOSEPH B. SCARNATI, III'S RESPONSE TO PETITIONERS' APPLICATION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF <u>NON-PRIVILEGED DOCUMENTS</u>

Respondents Michael C. Turzai and Joseph B. Scarnati III (collectively, "Legislative Respondents") file this Response to Petitioners' Application to Compel Production of Non-Privileged Documents (the "Application").

INTRODUCTION

Petitioners' Application manifests nothing more than Petitioners' curious effort to manufacture a dispute where none exists, and to then peddle that "dispute" to the Court in an effort to sully Legislative Respondents. Petitioners' Application advances two "disputes" that they claim necessitate the Court's intervention: (1) Legislative Respondents' failure to produce non-privileged documents in their possession responsive to Petitioners' First Request for Production of Documents ("1st RPDs"); and (2) Legislative Respondents' failure to respond to Petitioners' Second Request for Production of Documents ("2nd RPDs").

In fact, there exists no real dispute with regard to either item (as set forth, in part, in **Exhibit A** to Petitioners' Application). With regard to the latter, Legislative Respondents advised Petitioners in **Exhibit A** (at p. 6), that Legislative Respondents would provide responses early this week. Legislative Respondents served such responses this morning (the

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"Responses").¹ And, with regard to the former, Legislative Respondents advised Petitioners in **Ex. A** (at pp. 3, 4) that while they believe the Court's November 22, 2017 Memorandum and Order ("November 22 Order") in its Section 8 eliminates any requirement that Legislative Respondents produce documents in response to Petitioners' 1st RPDs, Legislative Respondents would nevertheless produce non-privileged responsive documents in their possession provided that Petitioners agreed that doing so would not constitute a waiver of any privileges this Court recognized in the November 22 Order.

Petitioners refused Legislative Respondents' offer, *see* Ex. A at 2, and have instead filed this Application. To be clear, Legislative Respondents are now, and have been, willing to produce non-privileged documents in their possession responsive to Petitioners' 1st RPDs, but they are unable to do so out of concern that Petitioners will attempt to seize upon this production to claim waiver. Put simply, Petitioners have the unilateral ability to address their stated concern, but for reasons known only to them, refuse to take a simple step to remedy their situation. *See* Ex. A at 1.

1. Exhibit A speaks for itself, and Petitioners' characterizations thereof are therefore denied. By way of further response, it is admitted that

¹ A copy of the Responses is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

Legislative Respondents have non-privileged documents in their possession responsive to Petitioners' 1st RPDs.

2. Legislative Respondents' "Legislative Privilege brief" speaks for itself, and Petitioners' characterizations thereof are therefore denied.

3. Admitted only that Petitioners' 2nd RPDs were served on or about November 14, 2017. Petitioners' 2nd RPDs speak for themselves, and Petitioners' characterizations thereof are therefore denied.

4. Denied. Legislative Defendants served their Responses to Petitioners' 2nd RPDs this morning. *See* Ex. 1. The Responses speak for themselves. By way of further response, and as set forth in the Responses, Legislative Respondents will identify those exhibits that they plan to introduce at trial by December 8, 2017, as contemplated by the Court's November 17, 2017 Supplemental Scheduling Order. *See* Ex. 1 at 2.

5. Exhibit A speaks for itself, and Petitioners' characterizations thereof are therefore denied. By way of further response, Legislative Respondents respectfully direct the Court to the Introduction above.

6. The Court's November 22 Order and the "Pennsylvania Rules" speak for themselves, and Petitioners' characterizations thereof are therefore denied. By way of further response, Legislative Respondents deny that the agreement that they offered (as set forth in **Ex. A** and discussed in the

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Introduction above) is at all prejudicial to Petitioners.

7. Denied. Legislative Respondents lack information and knowledge sufficient to form as belief as to the origins of Petitioners' diatribe contained in this paragraph of the Application. By way of further response, Legislative Respondents' offer as set forth in **Ex. A** is simple: Legislative Respondents will produce those non-privileged documents in their possession responsive to Petitioners' 1st RPDs, provided that Petitioners agree that doing so will not constitute a waiver of any privileges this Court recognized in the November 22 Order. *See* **Ex. A**.

8. This paragraph of the Application constitutes a legal conclusion to which no response is required.

WHEREFORE, Legislative Respondents respectfully request that this

Honorable Court deny Petitioners' Application.

Dated: November 28, 2017

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/s/ Brian S. Paszamant

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Respectfully Submitted,

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EXHIBIT 1

BLANK ROME LLP

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RESPONDENTS MICHAEL C. TURZAI, AND JOSEPH B. SCARNATI III'S RESPONSE TO PETITIONERS' SECOND SET OF REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION

Respondents Michael C. Turzai, and Joseph B. Scarnati III (collectively,

"Opposing Respondents") file this Response to Petitioners' Second Set of Requests

for Production.

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DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. All documents that You contend support any claim by You that the

2011 Plan was created without partisan intent.

<u>RESPONSE:</u> With respect to document request one, you fail to define partisan intent. Absent such a definition Opposing Respondents are unable to determine whether they have any non-privileged responsive documents.

2. All documents that You intend to rely on at trial.

<u>**RESPONSE:</u>** This information will be supplied in accordance with the Court's scheduling order of November 17, 2017.</u>

Dated: November 28, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

BLANK ROME, LLP

By: <u>/s/</u>____

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