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CAPITOL BUILDING DES MOINES, IOWA 50319 PHONE: 515 281-5368 FAX: 515 281-7562

September 3, 2024

Mr. Leif Olson Chief Deputy Attorney General Attorney General's Office Hoover Bldg. LOCAL

Dear Mr. Olson:

The Executive Council, in a meeting held this date, approved your requests for retention of outside counsel pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7(1), to represent the Treasurer of State to retain Foster Garvey, P.C., to advise his office on matters related to the revision of the Treasurer's investment policy under Iowa Code §§ 12.8, 12B.10, and 12B.10B. Special counsel would be paid from the Treasurer's funds.

Attorney: Foster Garvey, P.C.

1111 3rd Ave 30th Fl Seattle, WA 98101

Rate: \$610/hour for principals and of-counsel lawyers, \$540/hour for associate

lawyers and \$210/hour for paralegals.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA** 

Victoria Newton

Acting Executive Secretary

## BRENNA BIRD ATTORNEY GENERAL

LEIF A. OLSON
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



1305 E. WALNUT ST.
DES MOINES, IA 50319

Main: 515-281-5164 • Direct: 515-954-9564
Email: Leif.Olson@ag.iowa.gov
www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov

August 23, 2024

Kristi Onstot, Executive Secretary Executive Council State Capitol

Re: Retention of special counsel by Treasurer of State

## Dear Kristi:

In accordance with Iowa Code § 13.7(1), the Office of the Attorney General requests that the Executive Council authorize the Treasurer of State to retain Foster Garvey, P.C., to advise his office on matters related to the revision of the Treasurer's investment policy under Iowa Code §§ 12.8, 12B.10, and 12B.10B. Special counsel would be paid from the Treasurer's funds.

The Iowa Code requires that the Treasurer invest the State's surplus funds in accordance with written policies adopted by the Treasurer, subject to requirements and restrictions of State law. While the Attorney General's Office is able to review many proposed investments to determine whether they comply with Iowa law, we do not currently have personnel with sufficient expertise to advise the Treasurer on adoption of a general policy.

We agree with the Treasurer's recommendation that Foster Garvey be employed as special counsel. It currently serves as counsel to the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System, a role in which it advises IPERS on similar matters. Foster Garvey will bill on an hourly basis, in 0.1-hour increments, at the same rates it currently bills IPERS: \$610/hour for principals and of-counsel lawyers, \$540/hour for associate lawyers, and \$210/hour for paralegals. These rates appear to be comparable to those charged by other firms for similar services.

Kristi Onstot, Executive Secretary Retention of Special Counsel by Treasurer of State August 23, 2024 Page 2 of 2

We recommend that the Executive Council approve the Treasurer's retention of Foster Garvey, P.C., on the described terms.

Since rely,

Leif 👭 Olson

Chief Deputy Attorney General