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## Executive Council of Iowa

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

October 6, 2025

Mr. Steve Blankinship  
Chief Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney General's Office  
Hoover Bldg.  
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Blankinship:

The Executive Council, in a meeting held this date, approved your request for retention of special counsel pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7 to provide legal services and representation to Iowa—specifically, University of Iowa Health Care— with respect to the antitrust lawsuit against Blue Cross Blue Shield related entities for violations of state and federal antitrust laws, for which the Executive Council has already approved retention of Paul Hastings LLP as special counsel.

Firm: Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC  
Lakeshore Park Plaza  
2204 Lakeshore Dr., Ste. 425  
Birmingham, AL 35209

Firm: Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP  
One Federal Place  
1819 5th Avenue N

Rate: Paul Hastings will pay Barze Taylor's and Bradley Arant's hourly fees. Those fees constitute case expenses under the representation agreement with Paul Hastings, meaning they, and the risk that they will not be recovered, will be carried by Paul Hastings until the conclusion of the representation and will be reimbursed to Paul Hastings out of any recovery.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

*Kristi Onstot*

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary