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March 29, 2021

**Via FedEx and email**

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Hon. John A. Sweeney, A.J.S.C. (Ret.)  
Council on Local Mandates  
140 East Front Street, 8th Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08625

**RE: In re Complaint Filed by the Franklin Township Board of Education  
Regarding P.L. 2020, Chapter 44  
COLM-0001-21**

Dear Judge Sweeney:

This office represents Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin. Please accept this letter as a Notice of Appearance filed on behalf of Senate President Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Coughlin.

Please be advised that the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker appear in this proceeding pursuant to Council Rule 6(a) and 9(a) and by operation of the Council's Publication Notice regarding this proceeding. The Council's Publication Notice states, in relevant part: "The Council also determined that the Attorney General would be directed to file an Answer to the Complaint, **and that any other official served with the Complaint that chose to do so might file an Answer, as Respondent.**" (emphasis added). Pursuant to Council Rule 9(a), the Senate President and Assembly Speaker were served with the Complaint. As such, they intend to file a responsive pleading pursuant to the Publication Notice and pursuant to Your Honor's Case Management Order dated March 9, 2021.

Hon. John A. Sweeney, A.J.S.C. (Ret.)

March 29, 2021

Page 2

Thank you for your cooperation and courtesies.

Respectfully,

Cullen and Dykman LLP  
Attorneys for Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney  
and Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin

By: /s/ Leon J. Sokol  
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