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TO: Members, Government Oversight Committee
FROM: Lucia Nixon and Scott Farwell
DATE: June 18, 2021
RE: Request for OPEGA Review sponsored by Representative Bell

At the May 14, 2021 meeting of the GOC, a request for a review of the *RFP Process Administered by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Highway Safety and associated Department of Administration and Financial Services procurement policies* was presented by Representative Bell. This request came about as the result of a potential vendor's recent experience with the RFP process for a contract for sports marketing services issued by DPS/BHS. The GOC decided to consider the matter further at a subsequent meeting prior to making its decision regarding an OPEGA review.

At its June 4, 2021 meeting, GOC members discussed their interest in getting a sense of whether the RFP experience that prompted this review request was specific to this particular situation or potentially indicative of systemic problems with the administration of the RFP process or state procurement policies and practices more broadly. This is consistent with the GOC's general approach to the assignment of OPEGA reviews to evaluate the performance of government programs and agencies. To inform the decision on this request, the GOC directed OPEGA to:

- Compile and provide the following background information and materials: RFP for Sports Marketing Services (RFP 202006107); appeal Decision for RFP 202006107; state statute and agency rules regarding procurement; OPEGA 2008 report regarding state contracting; and
- Invite representatives of DPS, DAFS and Sponsor to be available to answer questions at the next meeting on June 25, 2021.

The requested information is provided as attachments to this memo. For reference, OPEGA searched the history of review requests for the past 7 years to identify any similar requests; based on his search, we did not identify requests for an OPEGA a review related to state procurement processes. In the review from 2008, the focus was on costs--the GOC had directed OPEGA to identify opportunities to reduce costs associated with contracting for professional services. In the first section of that report (see attachment), OPEGA provides an overview of the state procurement and RFP processes. While some details have changed, this overview from 2008 is otherwise generally reflective of the current state procurement and RFP processes.