October 14, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Office of the Governor
Attn: FOIA
1100 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201
FOIA@governor.sc.gov

Re: Public Records Request, H4100, Part 1B, Section 1 - H630

Dear FOIA Office:

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (“CREW”) makes this request for records of the South Carolina State House of Representatives pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-4-10 et seq.

Specifically, CREW requests the following records relating to House Bill 630 (“HB 630”) created on or before June 30, 2021:

1. All records discussing the potential effect of any provision of H630 on Black, Latino, or other racial, ethnic, or sexual minorities, and including without limitation the following provisions of H630:
   i. Prohibition on state funding for schools or their employees engaging with any of the following:
      1. One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex;
      2. An individual, by virtue of his race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;
      3. An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his race or sex;
      4. An individual's moral standing or worth is necessarily determined by his race or sex;
      5. An individual, by virtue of his race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex;
      6. An individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his race or sex;
      7. Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race; and
      8. Fault, blame, or bias should be assigned to a race or sex, or to members of a race or sex because of their race or sex.
        a. (H630, Section 1105)
2. All records reflecting any analysis, consideration, or determination regarding how H630 would serve to decrease political divisiveness or promote racial, ethnic, or sexual equality, including any evidence or data supporting such analyses.

3. All records relating to the legislative procedures by which H630 was passed, including without limitation records relating to:
   i. Requirements or limitations regarding testimony from members of the public on the bill
   ii. Requirements or limitations regarding legislative debate on the bill
   iii. Efforts to expedite the legislative process for the bill

4. All records reflecting any communications, meetings, phone calls, or conversations regarding H630 or any predecessor version of that bill with representatives of any non-governmental or private organization, including without limitation the following organizations and individuals:
   i. Claremont Institute
   ii. Be the People Project
   iii. Unity Training Solutions
   iv. Steamboat Institute
   v. America First Policy Institute
   vi. The Hoover Institute
   vii. American Majority
   viii. American Cornerstone Institute
   ix. 1776 Action
   x. Heritage Action for America
   xi. Heritage Foundation
   xii. Susan B. Anthony List
   xiii. American Principles Project
   xiv. Tea Party Patriots
   xv. FreedomWorks
   xvi. American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)
   xvii. Family Research Council
   xviii. Honest Elections Project
   xix. State Policy Network
   xx. Alliance Defending Freedom
   xxi. Federalist Society
   xxii. Cleta Mitchell
   xxiii. Ken Cuccinelli

Please search for responsive records in the offices of the following representatives:
Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. We seek records of any kind, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical material. Our request includes without limitation all correspondence, letters, emails, text messages, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions. Our request also includes any attachments to emails and other records, as well as emails to which the subjects of this request were cc’ed or or bcc’ed.

If it is your position that any portion of the requested records is exempt from disclosure, please provide an index of records or categories of records that have been withheld and the reasons the records or categories of records have been withheld. A.R.S. § 39-121.01(D)(2).

If some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please redact those portions and produce the remainder of the requested records.

This request is made for noncommercial purposes. CREW is a non-profit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CREW is committed to protecting the public’s right to be aware of the activities of government officials, to ensuring the integrity of those officials, and to highlighting and reducing the influence of money on politics. CREW intends to analyze the information responsive to this request and to share its analysis with the public. The release of information obtained through this request is not in CREW’s financial interest.

Because this request is made for noncommercial purposes, CREW requests that any fees charged in connection with processing this request be limited to copying and postage charges, if applicable. CREW agrees to pay up to $100 for copying and postage charges in connection with processing this request. If such costs or fees are expected to exceed this amount, please contact me at (202) 408-5565 or foia@citizensforethics.org.

Where possible, please produce records in electronic format. Please send the requested records to me at either foia@citizensforethics.org or to Citizens for Responsibility
Please contact me if you have any questions about this request or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Alexis Pozonsky
Legal Intern