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**Re: Issuing a Public Report Regarding the Work of the Committee in Reviewing Candidates for the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government**

Dear Members of the New York State Independent Review Committee,

Our organizations appreciate the considerable effort taken by the NYS Independent Review Committee (“Committee”) in evaluating nominees to the new Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (“Commission”). We hope that your efforts will result in a more effective Commission. Now that nearly all members of the Commission have been nominated, we ask that you provide the public with a report regarding your work to date.

We particularly note the interest of the Committee in being as transparent as feasible within the constraints of the statutory language (A.9006-C/S.8006-C, Part QQ).

In line with the way the Committee has conducted its business, we urge the Committee to begin preparing a report once it completes its evaluations of the full set of initial appointees, or detailing its work through the 2022 calendar year, whichever is sooner.

The report should set forth how the Committee conducted its work, how well its procedures were followed, and any problems the Committee encountered. In particular, we encourage you to evaluate whether sufficient time was provided for public comment. The report also should identify any issues with the statute or the Committee's procedures that merit revision in light of the Committee's first experience with vetting nominations.

We also ask that, in connection with releasing the report, you release the applicable records pertaining to the review and selection process for individual commission members' seats, to the fullest extent and at the time permitted by law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Betsy Gotbaum  
Executive Director  
Citizens Union

Susan Lerner  
Executive Director  
Common Cause NY

Evan Davis  
Manager  
Committee to Reform the State Constitution

Laura Ladd Bierman  
Executive Director  
League of Women Voters of New York State

Edward Murray  
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New York City Bar Association Committee on Government Ethics and State Affairs

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