Lisa Diesslin

From: Karla Sainz

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 7:53 AM

To: Ed Burek

Cc: Josh McGee; Stuart Buck

Subject: Follow up- Inquiry-Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Dear Mr. Burek,

We appreciate you reaching out to the Foundation in regards to this very pressing issue. At this time we will not be able to attend the Commissions Oct.23rd meeting but we are able to provide a brief overview of our policy recommendations when it comes to Cost of Living Adjustments and their implications for reform:

- 1. A COLA is a substantial and important benefit for employees
- 2. COLAs are intended to protect benefits from inflation and as such it is always a good idea to link COLAs to the CPI
- 3. COLAs should always be paid for before they are given (never add to the UAAL) either through normal cost or through annual appropriations

If you would prefer a formal submission from the Foundation, please submit a letter from the Commission to the Foundation and we will provide additional information as time permits.

Sincerely,

Karla Sainz
Laura and John Arnold Foundation
Public Accountability Manager
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Houston, Texas 77056

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