



*State of South Carolina*  
*Office of the State Auditor*

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GEORGE L. KENNEDY, III, CPA  
STATE AUDITOR

RICHARD H. GILBERT, JR., CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

October 15, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley, Governor  
South Carolina Governor's Office  
State House  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

We have issued the final report on the audit of the financial statements of the South Carolina State Fiscal Accountability Authority – Insurance Reserve Fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The report was issued by The Hobbs Group, PA, Certified Public Accountants. The State Fiscal Accountability Authority has authorized the State Auditor to distribute copies of completed financial reports directly to individual members of State boards and commissions. The report has been posted to the Internet web page of the Office of the State Auditor (<http://osa.sc.gov>). Also, we have enclosed one copy of the report herewith for your use.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Very truly yours,

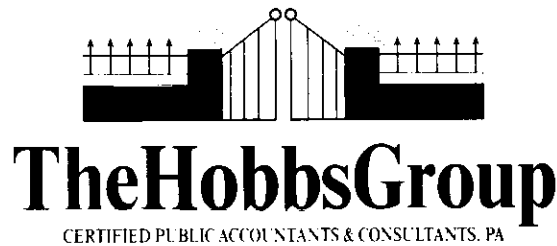
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GLK/cwc

Enclosures

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To the Board of Directors and Management  
South Carolina State Budget and Control Board  
Insurance Reserve Fund

We have audited the financial statements of the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board Insurance Reserve Fund (the "Fund") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated September 28, 2015. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

#### **Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit**

As communicated in our engagement letter dated July 27, 2015, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Fund solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

#### **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

#### **Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence**

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

## **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

### *Significant Accounting Policies*

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Fund is included in Note A to the financial statements. As described in Note A to the financial statements, during the year, the entity changed its method of accounting for pensions by adopting Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*. The adoption has resulted in the restatement of the Fund's net position as of July 1, 2014, reflecting the cumulative change in accounting principle related to the adoption of these Statements. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### *Significant Accounting Estimates*

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are;

Management's estimate of the claims payable is based on the actuarial report prepared by Towers Watson, which quantifies the future liabilities for claims that have been incurred but not reported. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the claims payable and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the fair value of investments is based on year end statements provided by the South Carolina State Treasurer's Office. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the fair market value of investments and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the net pension liability is based on the audited schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer of the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS), as administered by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority, which quantifies the net pension liability, total deferred inflows of resources, total deferred outflows of resources, and total pension expense. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

### *Financial Statement Disclosures*

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the Fund's financial statements relate to fair value estimates, contingencies, claims liabilities, and pensions.

### **Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

### **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. There are no uncorrected misstatement to report for this engagement.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. No such misstatements were identified as a result of our audit procedures.

### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the Fund's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

### **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the attached letter dated September 28, 2015.

### **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

### **Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues**

In the normal course of our professional association with the Fund, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, operating and regulatory conditions affecting the entity, and operational plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Fund's auditors.

### **Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements**

Pursuant to professional standards, our responsibility as auditors for other information in documents containing the Fund's audited financial statements does not extend beyond the financial information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform any procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with such standards, we have:

Applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements.

Our responsibility also includes communicating to you any information which we believe is a material misstatement of fact. Nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that such information, or its manner of presentation, is materially inconsistent with the information, or manner of its presentation, appearing in the financial statements.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of the Fund and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Columbia, South Carolina  
September 28, 2015

*The Hall Group, P.A.*

NIKKI R. HALEY, CHAIR  
GOVERNOR

CURTIS M. LOFTIS, JR.  
STATE TREASURER

RICHARD ECKSTROM, CPA  
COMPTROLLER GENERAL



INSURANCE RESERVE FUND

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HUGH K. LEATHERMAN, SR.  
CHAIRMAN, SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

W. BRIAN WHITE  
CHAIRMAN, HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS

The Hobbs Group, PA  
1704 Laurel Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the basic financial statements of the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board Insurance Reserve Fund (the "Fund") as of June 30, 2015 and for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion on whether the basic financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the Fund in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted for governments in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves as of the date of this letter:

#### **Financial Statements**

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement dated July 27, 2015, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements.
- We have reviewed, approved, and taken responsibility for the financial statements and related notes.

- We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- We have identified and communicated to you all previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
- All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- The effects of all known actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- All funds and activities are properly classified.
- All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*, GASB Statement No. 37, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments: Omnibus as amended*, and GASB Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*, for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are considered important to financial statement users.
- All components of net position, nonspendable fund balance, and restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- Our policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position/fund balance are available is appropriately disclosed and net position/fund balance is properly recognized under the policy.
- All interfund and intra-entity transactions and balances have been properly classified and reported.
- Special items and extraordinary items have been properly classified and reported.
- Deposit and investment risks have been properly and fully disclosed.
- All required supplementary information is measured and presented within the prescribed guidelines.

- With regard to investments and other instruments reported at fair value:
  - The underlying assumptions are reasonable and they appropriately reflect management's intent and ability to carry out its stated courses of action.
  - The measurement methods and related assumptions used in determining fair value are appropriate in the circumstances and have been consistently applied.
  - The disclosures related to fair values are complete, adequate, and in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
  - There are no subsequent events that require adjustments to the fair value measurements and disclosures included in the financial statements.

#### **Information Provided**

- We have provided you with:
  - Access to all information, of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements referred to above, such as records, documentation, meeting minutes, and other matters;
  - Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
  - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
  - Management;
  - Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, vendors, regulators, or others.
- We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
- There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with or deficiencies in accounting, internal control, or financial reporting practices.



- The Fund has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities.
- We have disclosed to you all guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Fund is contingently liable.
- We have disclosed to you all significant estimates and material concentrations known to management that are required to be disclosed in accordance with GASB Statement No. 62 (GASB-62), *Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements*. Significant estimates are estimates at the balance sheet date that could change materially within the next year. Concentrations refer to volumes of business, revenues, available sources of supply, or markets or geographic areas for which events could occur that would significantly disrupt normal finances within the next year.
- We have identified and disclosed to you the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on financial statement amounts, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- There are no:
  - Violations or possible violations of laws or regulations, or provisions of contracts or grant agreements whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, including applicable budget laws and regulations.
  - Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with GASB-62.
  - Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by GASB-62
  - Continuing disclosure consent decree agreements or filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and we have filed updates on a timely basis in accordance with the agreements (Rule 240, 15c2-12).
- The Fund has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset or future revenue been pledged as collateral, except as disclosed to you.
- We have complied with all aspects of grant agreements and other contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- With respect to the required supplementary information accompanying the financial statements:
  - a. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of the required supplementary information in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
  - b. We believe the required supplementary information, including its form and content, is measured and fairly presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
  - c. The methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period.

- d. We believe the significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the required supplementary information, and the basis for our assumptions and interpretations, are reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances.
- We agree with the findings of specialists in evaluating the actuarial claims liability as of June 30, 2015 and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialist in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.
  - We believe that the actuarial assumptions and methods used to measure pension and other postemployment benefit liabilities and costs for financial accounting purposes are appropriate in the circumstances.
  - With respect to the nonattest services you performed, which consisted of drafting the financial statements, we acknowledge and represent that we have taken responsibility for:
    - A. Making all management decisions and performing all management functions;
    - B. Assigning a competent individual to oversee the services.
    - C. Evaluating the adequacy of the services performed.
    - D. Evaluating and accepting responsibility for the results of the services performed; and
    - E. Establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.

  
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Anne Macon F. Smith, Executive Director

9/28/2015  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen R. Waterhouse, Finance Manager

9/28/2015  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date