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May 21, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Scott S. Harris
Clerk,
Supreme Court of the United States
One First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

Re: Higginson v. Becerra, Case No. 19-1199 – Withdrawal of Amicus Brief

Dear Mr. Harris:

This letter is written on behalf of Janet Goodson, Linda Draper and Art Hatley, all elected members of the Oroville City Council, to inform the Court that the *Amicus Curiae* brief filed on or about May 7, 2020, purportedly on behalf of the City of Oroville, was not properly authorized under California law.

Under California law, a city’s decision “to enter as an *amicus curiae* in any form of litigation” may only be made by a majority vote of the city council, and must be reported publicly following the action by the city council. (See Cal. Gov’t Code § 54957.1, subd. (a)(2)). In this case, the Oroville City Council never discussed filing this amicus brief or taking any position in *Higginson v. Becerra*. Rather, it appears that the unelected City Attorney chose to sign on to the *amicus curiae* brief without consulting or gaining the approval of the City Council, as required under California law.

We believe the California Voting Rights Act is an entirely constitutional exercise of the State's authority to direct the method of election to be utilized by the State's political subdivisions. The *amicus curiae* brief purportedly filed on behalf of the City of Oroville does not reflect the views of our City in our view. We find the arguments advanced in the *amicus curiae* brief to be misguided and unacceptable.

Given the unauthorized submission of this brief on behalf of our City, we ask that the City of Oroville be removed as an *amicus curiae* in this case.

Very truly yours,

s/ Paul L. Hoffman

Paul Hoffman

On behalf of Janet Goodson,
Linda Draper and Art Hadley

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 21, 2020, I electronically filed the foregoing document *Higginson v. Becerra, Case No. 19-1199 – Withdrawal of Amicus Brief* with the Clerk of the Court for the Supreme Court of the United States by using the Supreme Court’s electronic filing system.

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing document by First-Class Mail, postage prepaid, to the following participants:

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Date: May 21, 2020

By: /s/ William Hoffman
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