

September 21, 2020

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**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND E-MAIL**

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

**RE: Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L. (No. 20-255)**

Dear Mr. Harris:

Respondent in the above-captioned matter writes to request a 60-day extension of Respondent's time to file a brief in opposition to the petition for writ of certiorari from October 1, 2020, to November 30, 2020. The petition for a writ of certiorari was submitted on August 28, 2020, and docketed on September 1, 2020.

Respondent seeks this extension in light of counsel's competing personal and professional obligations. First and foremost, the current public health emergency related to COVID-19 has forced the closure of and/or significant restrictions on capacity at each of the offices where Respondent's counsel normally work. The public health emergency has also forced closures of schools and child care facilities, requiring Respondent's counsel to care for minor children during this time. Meanwhile, in this context of reduced capacity, counsel for Respondent remain committed to other upcoming filings.

Counsel for Respondent who work for the ACLU of Pennsylvania are also involved in litigation and other matters related to the organization's non-partisan Election Protection work and thus require additional time following the November 3, 2020, election to prepare a response.

These circumstances would make it difficult for counsel to prepare the response in this case before the current October 1 deadline.

There will be no prejudice to the Petitioner if this request is granted. The issue in the case below was whether a school district violated the First Amendment rights of a student, B.L., when it suspended her from the cheerleading team for one year for a social media post she made off campus on her own time. The district court ordered Petitioner to reinstate B.L. to the cheerleading team, and she continued to participate on the team until she graduated from high school in June 2020. Any decision by this Court will not affect B.L.'s eligibility to participate on the cheerleading team.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

*/s/ Arleigh P. Helfer III*

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For SCHNADER HARRISON SEGAL & LEWIS LLP