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Protecting Your Right to Know for 30 Years!

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31 January 2013

The Honorable Jeff Clemens  
The Florida Senate  
404 S. Monroe Street, Room 226 SOB  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Charles David Hood, Jr.  
The Florida House of Representatives  
402 S. Monroe Street, Room 1003 Cap  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Re: CLARIFICATION – FAF Position on SB 606 and HB 655

Dear Senator Clemens and Representative Hood:

I am writing to clarify our position on SB 606 and HB 655. The Foundation supports only Section 1 of both the Senate and House bills, which would amend s. 112.3142, F.S., to require mandatory ethics and open government training for elected municipal officials. We have not taken a position on any of the other provisions in the proposed legislation.

As stated in our letter of January 20, our experience has shown that many of the access problems encountered by citizens can be resolved with additional education and training, and we firmly believe that such training is necessary to ensure Floridians free exercise of their self-executing rights under Article I, section 24, of the Florida Constitution.

I apologize for any confusion our previous letter caused. If we can be of any service, or if you would like additional information about our position, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Petersen, President

Cc: The Honorable Don Gaetz, Senate President  
The Honorable Will Weatherford, Speaker of the  
Jon Kaney, General Counsel, First Amendment Foundation  
Sam Morley, General Counsel, Florida Press Association  
Bob Gabordi, President, Florida Society of News Editors