From: Andy Johnson
To: SoS Rulemaking

Subject: Re: Secretary Williams invites you to comment on proposed notary rules

Date: Friday, March 2, 2018 4:52:44 PM

Sir, my name is Andy Johnson and I have had the pleasure of meeting you at the Portland, ME and Nashville, TN NASS conferences. Though our meeting was brief, I have learned a lot about your style and philosophy through my observations and your notary staff, such as Deana. I have absolutely loved working with your notary department as an education vendor and hanging out with them as friends. Everyone has great praise for you with how you are managing the state with a casual atmosphere, but still being productive and achieving your goals. I have touted Colorado as the model for how to conduct business in both the personnel management and also how you handle the notary application process.

With that being said, I would like to address an issue that concerns me and my notaries. Colorado has recently offered the state-approved online training course free of charge to applying notaries. This is directly competing with not only myself, but your other notary vendor partners. I have not spoken with the other vendors as of this date, but I am sure they have all felt the economic impact of this, as have I. I understand it is a privilege to be able to offer the course as an approved vendor, however, I believe this is an unfair competition since the state does not have to make any money off the course. I would hope you would consider either not competing at all with your vendors or charge a fee for the state course so that we can continue to offer alternative options in the marketplace. I would be happy to discuss this in more detail if you would be so inclined.

If no action is taken, it would be highly unlikely that we would renew our vendor status since the cost far outweighs the benefit. I know that Colorado is pro-business and will make adjustments so the public is served and the vendors can continue to be integral partners in the process.

Please take this into consideration. Thank you for your time and thank you for all the work you are doing for the State of Colorado.

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