## JIM GREGORY, MEMBER

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## House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

June 7, 2022

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Acting Secretary of State Leigh M. Chapman Pennsylvania Department of State 302 North Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Acting Secretary Chapman,

As the 2021-22 Legislative Session enters its final six months, I am reaching out to you about the required publication of House Bill 14. The referenced legislation proposes an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution to provide a two-year window during which civil lawsuits arising out of childhood sexual abuse may be filed in court, notwithstanding otherwise applicable defenses.

While you were not Secretary of the Commonwealth at the time, the Department of State's failure to properly publish the notice of House Bill 963 of the 2019-2020 Legislative Session meant that the prior passage of that legislation was negated. This was devastating to many survivors of sexual abuse, including myself.

Since a proposed constitutional amendment must pass the General Assembly in two consecutive legislative sessions, that failure caused a two-year delay in the completion of this process, which seeks to place the question before the voters. That delay inflicted substantial harm to the survivors who have been waiting for a window in which to file their civil lawsuits.

The deadline for the completion of this publication is three months prior to the next general election. As this deadline approaches, it is my understanding that this notice has not yet been completed for 2022.

With that in mind, I am asking you to take an active role in overseeing the proper publication of House Bill 14 as required by Article XI, Section 1 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. I look forward to hearing about the steps that you have taken to ensure that this publication is being completed properly and the date that you expect that the publication will be completed. Since the deadline for publication is approaching, I would like to have that conversation by June 14, 2022.

Sincerely,

State Representative

80th Legislative District