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March 31, 2014

STATE OF ALABAMA

Ms. Leura Canary Mr. Jared H. Morris The Retirement Systems of Alabama 201 South Union Street P.O. Box 302150 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2150

Dear Ms. Canary and Mr. Morris:

Your request for an informal opinion has been forwarded to me for a response.

I will not recite the contents of your letter; however, I will incorporate them by reference.

In addition, the pre-certification dated December 21, 2011, as well as Advisory Opinion No. 95-82, which are attached, are both valid documents originating from the Ethics Commission.

As you point out, the Ethics Law is designed to prevent the use of one's public office for their personal benefit. There is nothing in the Ethics Law that would even remotely tend to prohibit Dr. Bronner or other any RSA employee from traveling on an airplane belonging to organizations in which RSA owns a controlling interest when they are traveling for official business of RSA. This would be analogous to using a state car for business travel.

In other words, the law would prohibit Dr. Bronner or another employee using an airplane to transport their families to a vacation at Disney World. It does not prohibit or limit their travel for official business of RSA.

I hope this satisfactorily answers your questions.

10

Hugh R. Evans, III General Counsel

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