

Legislative Ethics Board

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January 3, 2024

Debbie Brookman
Director
Office of State Legislative Labor Relations
1007 Washington St. SE
Olympia, WA 98501

RE: Advisory Opinion Request

Dear Ms. Brookman:

The Board has requested that I provide you with the following information.

On March 22, 2023, you requested an advisory opinion from the Board in which you posed a number of questions pertaining to collective bargaining by legislative employees. You had indicated that it would have been helpful to you to have the advisory opinion before the deadline for the final report you are required by statute to provide to the legislature. That deadline was October 1, 2023.

As you are aware, the Board discussed your request numerous times during multiple Board meetings over the past seven months. The Board's goal was to provide you with an advisory opinion before the deadline for your report. Unfortunately, the Board struggled to meet that deadline. In its December 2023 meeting, after determining that the members were divided on the response to your questions, and not wishing to issue an advisory opinion which was not unanimous, the Board voted to deny your request for an advisory opinion. As a result, the Board will not be issuing an advisory opinion in response to your request.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Strus
Board Counsel