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May 3, 2016

MAY 05 2016

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dr. Michael Kirst
Ms. Patricia Rucker
Dr. Niki Sandoval
Members of Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Request for Information about History-Social Science
Frameworks adoption**

Dear Dr. Kirst, Ms. Rucker, Dr. Sandoval, and members of the Instructional Quality Commission:

This office represents the Hindu American Foundation, which has been actively involved in the adoption of the History-Social Science Frameworks, particularly grades 6-8. HAF recently sent a request for more information about the framework adoption process and, in particular, the role that has been played by the California History Social Science Project (CHSSP) and the decision to elevate the role of certain members of the academic community identified as "South Asia scholars."

HAF received no response to its request. On their behalf, I have therefore separately submitted a Public Request Act request for documents related to these topics. HAF believes that it is unfortunate that it has to submit such a request and remains hopeful that a more informal exchange of information could serve the same purpose.

HAF would like me to express its willingness to continue to engage in any informal dialogue or communications related to these topics, but we also wish to remind the participants at the Department of Education that HAF considers the public process for ultimate approval of the frameworks to be extremely important. Once decisions begin to be made outside that process, the potential for misinformation and bias becomes great.

We understand that adoption of the History-Social Science frameworks was recently removed from the agenda of the SBE May meeting. We are hopeful that a full and deliberate evaluation of recent events will lead the IQC and the SBE to return to a more open and neutral assessment of the

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proposed frameworks and a somewhat more skeptical evaluation of the proposed edits which have, in a number of cases, caused the frameworks to veer into subjective partisan perspectives.

We know many of the scholars who have provided input on the materials related to Hinduism and ancient India. If we can provide any additional information, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

OLSON HAGEL & FISHBURN LLP



DEBORAH B. CARLAN

DBC/lp

cc: Tom Adams, Dep. Supt.