



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MOLLY M. SPEARMAN**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*

December 1, 2017

The Honorable Henry D. McMaster  
Governor  
First Floor, State House  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor McMaster:

The purpose of this letter is to fulfill the notification requirements of Proviso 1A.33: IDEA Maintenance of Effort (MOE). This proviso directs use of Aid to District funding to supplement the required state MOE. Based on the best available information as of November 30, 2017, the South Carolina Department of Education estimates the state will exceed the funding necessary to meet MOE for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for FY 2017–18. As a reminder, however, we are still subject to the settlement agreement, which provides that should there be a default, the State of South Carolina will owe an additional \$34,061,389. The department is working diligently to ensure compliance with the agreement to avoid any such default.

The largest contributing budget line item for the IDEA MOE is the Education Finance Act (EFA). The increased Base Student Cost for 2017–18 has increased the ability of the state to meet its MOE requirements. Please be reminded that we will not know whether we have met MOE for FY 2017–18 until the 135 day information is received and reviewed from school districts.

My staff will continue to monitor and provide information as we move through the legislative process. Any questions regarding this matter can be directed to Nancy Williams, Chief Financial Officer or John R. Payne, Director of the Office of Special Education Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly M. Spearman".

Molly M. Spearman  
State Superintendent of Education

cc: The Honorable Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr.  
The Honorable W. Brian White