NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Department of Justice ("Department"), pursuant to Government Code section 87306 of the Political Reform Act (Gov. Code, § 81000 et seq.), proposes to amend its conflict of interest code. The purpose of the amendments is to implement Government Code sections 87300 through 87302, and section 87306.

Government Code sections 87300 and 87302 require each government agency to adopt a conflict of interest code designating the agency personnel who must periodically file a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests, disclosing certain economic interests. Designated personnel are those who make or participate in making governmental decisions that may foreseeably have a material financial effect on an economic interest. (Gov. Code, § 87302, subd. (a).)

The Department proposes to amend its conflict of interest code to include employee positions that make or participate in making governmental decisions that may foreseeably have a material financial effect on an economic interest, as set forth in Government Code section 87302, subdivision (a). The Department proposes other changes to reflect organizational changes that have occurred since the code was amended to two years ago.

Any interested person may submit written statements, arguments, or comments related to the proposed amendments by submitting them in writing no later than <u>April 2, 2024</u> or at the conclusion of the public hearing, if one is requested, whichever comes later, to the agency contact set forth below. The Department has not scheduled a public hearing on the proposed amendments. However, it will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a hearing from any interested person, or his or her representative, 15 days before the close of the written comment period.

The Department has prepared a written explanation (Statement of Reasons) for the proposed amendments and has made available the information on which the proposed amendments are based. Copies of the proposed amendments and the information on which the amendments are based are available at https://oag.ca.gov/meetings/public-participation or may be obtained by contacting the contact person set forth below.

The Department has determined that the proposed amendments will not impose a cost or savings on any state agency, or school district that is required to be reimbursed under part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of the Government Code; will not result in any non-discretionary cost or savings to local agencies; will not result in any cost or savings in federal funding to the state; will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts; and will not have any potential cost impact on private persons or businesses, including small businesses.

The Department has determined that no alternative considered by the Department would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the amendments are proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed amendments.

All inquiries concerning this proposal should be directed to: Andrea Jaramillo at Department of Justice, 1300 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814, or (916) 210-6280, or <u>Andrea Jaramillo@doj.ca.gov</u>.