

April 6, 2017

MAYOR SYLVESTER TURNER

Re: Sole Source Purchase

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to confirm the Houston Center for Literacy (HCL) is a non-profit organization established by the Mayor of the City of Houston, Kathy Whitmire, in 1984, to strengthen Houston families by raising adult literacy rates.

Competition is precluded, as there are no agencies in the city of Houston who act in the same capacity. Rather than competing, HCL partners with providers of adult education to ensure high levels of workforce and adult basic education skills training for adults in our community who need this in order to become fully productive citizens. HCL and adult education agencies, rather than competing, work in collaboration to address low literacy in Houston.

Across the Houston area, adult education agencies that are supported through HCL are working to end this cycle of intergenerational functional illiteracy for at-risk populations, narrow the education gap, and foster a more literate, prepared community in process. HCL also addresses low literacy rates by providing advocacy, current research, and additional support services for provider agencies, focusing in particular on the importance of adult education in workforce preparedness. Further, HCL recognizes its responsibility to promote the interest of adult education with local and state policymakers, advocating on behalf of adult education organizations, raising awareness and creating a positive policy environment for their programs.

If you desire additional information, don't hesitate to contact me at (713) 640-8204 at any time or visit our website at www.houliteracy.org.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sheri Suarez Foreman
President and CEO

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