L. ROBERT MURRAY

United States Attorney

NICHOLAS VASSALLO (WY Bar #5-2443)

Assistant United States Attorney

P.O. Box 668

Cheyenne, WY 82003-0668

Telephone: 307-772-2124

Nick.vassallo@usdoj.gov

BRYAN M. BOYNTON

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

LESLEY FARBY

Assistant Branch Director

KYLA M. SNOW (Ohio Bar No. 96662)

Trial Attorney

United States Department of Justice

Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

1100 L Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20005

Tel: (202) 514-3259 / Fax: (202) 616-8460

Kyla.snow@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Defendants

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

| LEISL M. CARPENTER, |) |
|--|------------------------|
| Plaintiff, |) |
| v. |) Case No. 21-cv-103-F |
| THOMAS J. VILSACK , in his official capacity as Secretary of Agriculture, et al., |) |
| Defendants. |))) |

DEFENDANTS' STATUS REPORT

In accordance with the Court's August 16, 2021, Order, ECF No. 33, Defendants respectfully

submit this status report.

1. In this action, Plaintiff Leisl Carpenter challenges Section 1005 of the American Rescue

Plan Act of 2021. Because Plaintiff is a member of the classes certified by the District

Court for the Northern District of Texas in Miller v. Vilsack, 4:21-cv-595 (N.D. Tex.), that

similarly challenge the same statutory provision, Defendants moved for, and the Court

granted, a stay of this action pending the outcome of the Miller litigation. See ECF No. 33

(Aug. 16, 2021).

2. The Miller class litigation remains ongoing. On September 22, 2021, the Miller court issued

a scheduling order pursuant to which the parties will file cross-motions for summary

judgment by March 11, 2022, and complete briefing on those motions by April 1, 2022.

3. On October 13, 2021, the Miller court denied a motion by plaintiffs in several other cases ¹

to opt out of the certified classes, concluding that the classes, certified under Rule 23(b)(2),

are mandatory classes that afford members no opportunity to opt out. ECFNo. 100, Miller.

4. Because the Miller case is still pending, and Plaintiff remains a member of the classes

certified in that case, the presumption against duplicative litigation and the interests of

judicial efficiency weigh in favor of continuing the stay.

Dated: February 16, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

L. ROBERT MURRAY

United States Attorney

<u>| s| Nicholas Vassallo</u>

NICHOLAS VASSALLO (WY Bar #5-2443)

Assistant United States Attorney

P.O. Box 668

Cheyenne, WY 82003-0668

Telephone: 307-772-2124

Nick.vassallo@usdoi.gov

¹ Ms. Carpenter did not join the motion to opt out.

2

BRIAN M. BOYNTON Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

LESLEY FARBY Assistant Branch Director Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

/s/ Kyla M. Snow

KYLA M. SNOW (Ohio Bar No. 96662) Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 1100 L Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20005

Tel: (202) 514-3259 / Fax: (202) 616-8460

Kyla.snow@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants