## FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO



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## **BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

April 14, 2020

The Honorable Wanda Vázquez Garced Governor of Puerto Rico

The Honorable Thomas Rivera Schatz President of the Senate of Puerto Rico

The Honorable Carlos J. Méndez Núñez Speaker of the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico

Dear Governor Vázquez Garced, President Rivera Schatz, Speaker Méndez Núñez:

We have become aware that Senate Joint Resolution 506 ("SJR 506") was recently approved by the Legislature. SJR 506 proposes to create the "Emergency Taxpayer Support Program", pursuant to which the Department of the Treasury would be authorized to grant payment plans to individuals and/or small and medium-sized businesses for amounts owed on their 2019 income tax return.

Alongside the Government of Puerto Rico, the Oversight Board has already taken several measures to alleviate the consequences of the COVID-19 emergency, including certification of the Emergency Measures Support Package on March 28, 2020. This package provides support to the Puerto Rican people, frontline workers, educators and students, and small businesses. Some of the measures contemplated in the actions taken by the Government and the Oversight Board will significantly affect the Government's revenue collections. Accordingly, the Oversight Board recommends that SJR 506 not be signed by the Governor as it is duplicative of the measures taken so far by the Government of Puerto Rico and the Oversight Board.

The Oversight Board believes that the health and safety of the people of Puerto Rico must be the number one priority at this time, and will provide appropriate and needed support for those affected by COVID-19, those fighting the virus at the frontlines, and those affected by the Government's response to the emergency. The Oversight Board will continue to work closely with the Governor, the Legislature, and the private sector to mitigate the crisis to the extent possible. The Oversight

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Board reserves all its rights to nullify and enjoin enforcement of legislation pursuant to PROMESA sections 204(a), 108(a)(2) and 207.

Sincerely,

Natalie A. Jaresko

CC: Mr. Omar Marrero Díaz