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Office of the President February 23, 2018

Members, Audit and Compliance Committee:

EXECUTE FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Audit and Compliance Committee authorize the Treasurer to execute the Engagement Letter with BKD, LLP for the audit of the University of Kentucky's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2018.

<u>Background</u>: BKD, LLP was retained as the University's independent auditor as a result of a competitive bid proposal in fall 2015. The initial contract period is a term of five years (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2021) with up to four additional one-year renewal options for a total term not to exceed nine years (through June 30, 2025).

The Treasurer recommends exercising the third year of the contract for the fiscal year 2017-18 audit engagement based upon satisfactory service to date and the contract's fixed price components.

The fiscal year 2016-17 audit engagement fees totaled \$391,865 and the 2017-18 engagement is expected to be \$403,800 due to a three percent increase included in the contract. The engagement will include the following services:

- audit of the basic financial statements of the University and its affiliates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018;
- audit of the basic financial statements of the University organizational units, UK Healthcare Hospital System, the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center, and WUKY-FM Radio; and
- other services including reports on internal controls and compliance as required by the State and federal government, reports on various agreed-upon procedures and a report on the estimated bond arbitrage liability.

The Engagement Letter will be provided to the Audit and Compliance Committee at its May 1, 2018 meeting, prior to the start of the fiscal year 2017-18 audit.