



# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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**MICHAEL A. NUTTER**  
Mayor

August 26, 2009

The Honorable Dominic Pileggi  
Majority Leader  
Pennsylvania State Senate  
350 Capitol Building  
Senate Box 203009  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3009

Dear Senator Pileggi:

As you have requested, I am writing to you today regarding HB 1828, the financial recovery bill for the City of Philadelphia.

I strongly supported HB 1828 as passed by the House of Representatives on August 5, 2009. As the measure moved through the Senate legislative process, I was made aware of various amendments that address pension reforms for plans across Pennsylvania, including Philadelphia. While I did not request any amendments to HB 1828 and have strongly requested and advocated that no amendments be made to the bill, I fully recognize and respect the General Assembly's legislative prerogative.

The financial recovery tools that are critical to the future of the City of Philadelphia – the authorization to temporarily increase the local sales tax by 1% for five years and the authorization to partially defer pension payments in FY10 and FY11 – are key elements contained with HB 1828. Also, as you know, these two components have no financial impact on Commonwealth.

Even though this bill now contains new amendments that I neither requested nor advocated for, the City of Philadelphia needs passage today by the Senate of HB 1828. The short and long term financial and operational interests of the City of Philadelphia are at stake and the tools essential to the City's financial recovery are embodied in HB 1828, Printer No. 2609 and therefore, I support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M.A. Nutter".

Michael A. Nutter  
Mayor