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House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

August 2, 2011

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS, SUBCOMMITTEE DEMOCRATIC CHAIR ON HEALTH AND WELFARE CONSUMER AFFAIRS LABOR & INDUSTRY POLICY, VICE CHAIR PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

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SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, TRUSTEE PENNSERVE ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Silvan B. Lutkewitte, III Chairman Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re:

Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulations Final Rulemaking (Agency/ID No. 126; IRRC No. 2885)

Dear Chairman Lutkewitte:

Please accept this letter of support for the Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulations Final Rulemaking. I ask that the Independent Regulatory Review Commission ("Commission") approve those regulations at its August 25, 2011 meeting.

As a Member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have reviewed the Philadelphia Parking Authority's annual taxicab and limousine budget and fee schedule. See 53 Pa.C.S. § 5707 (b). The Authority has now submitted 8 budgets to the House Appropriations Committee to support its efforts to develop a clean, safe and reliable taxicab and limousine industry in Philadelphia. Due to the requirements and flexibility of its current local regulations, I believe that the Authority's efforts have been successful.

The final-form regulations now before IRRC will maintain the existing regulatory structure in Philadelphia and further advance the purpose of Act 94 of 2004, which regulates parking authorities, taxicabs and limousines in cities of the first class. Following receipt of public comments, the Authority changed the regulations to remove the provisions that several commentators believed increased operating costs. Those amendments evidence the Authority's willingness to seek consensus and duly consider the opinions of those subject to its regulations. I believe that any delay in the approval of these regulations will be detrimental to the public good in Philadelphia; therefore, I urge the IRRC Commissioners to vote to approve the Authority's regulations.

State Representative

200th Legislative District