4TH DISTRICT Leanna M. Washington

SENATE BOX 203004 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3004 (717) 787-1427

FAX: (717) 772-0572

1555-A WADSWORTH AVENUE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19150 (215) 242-0472 FAX: (215) 753-4538

> 1168 EASTON ROAD ROSLYN, PA 19001 (215) 517-1434 FAX: (215) 517-1439

П

washington@pasenate.com

Senate of Pennsylvania

AGING AND YOUTH, DEMOCRATIC CHAIR COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS STATE GOVERNMENT VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DEMOCRATIC POLICY

August 2, 2011

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

RE: Final Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulations Regulation ID No. 126.1: IRRC No. 2885

Dear Chairman Lutkewitte,

I write to urge the Independent Regulatory Review Commission to approve the Philadelphia Parking Authority's Taxicab and Limousine regulations at it August 25, 2011 meeting.

Many residents and businesses in my 4th Senatorial district rely upon the services of the Philadelphia's taxicab and limousine industry. Since 2005 the quality of the vehicles used by those service providers and the capabilities and courtesy of the drivers has improved significantly. While room for improvement certainly exist, I believe the regulation of the Philadelphia Parking Authority are chiefly responsible for this change.

I believe the Authority's final form regulations will provide for the regulatory oversight necessary to assure a better quality of service to the public, without overburdening those who work each day to provide taxicab and limousine service. The final form regulations now before IRRC seek to maintain the regulatory status quo in Philadelphia, which will maintain costs incurred by regulated parties and paid by the riding public. I wish to draw attention to the substantial changes the Authority has made to these regulations based on public comment. I also would like to congratulate your staff not the professional manner in which it has administered this weighty rulemaking process.

I fully support and recommend that these regulations be approved.

Sincerely,

LeAnna M. Washington Pennsylvania State Senator

4th Senatorial District