



OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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June 26, 2013

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Caroline A. Bailey
Assistant Counsel
PA Department of State
210 North Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Ms. Bailey:

Thank you for notifying us about the proposed amendment to the Lobbying Disclosure Act. As outlined in the letter, the proposed biennial registration fee of \$200 will increase to \$700 - an increase of 350% - for the 2015-16 registration period.

We, as government leaders, believe this significant fee increase is unreasonable and overly burdensome for local governments. Additional burdens should not be placed upon cash-strapped government entities, particularly in these difficult economic times.

As we recognize the importance of the registration fees in supporting the Department of State's oversight and auditing of lobbying activity, we respectfully request that you consider exempting government entities from such an increase. In doing so, this will help ease the financial impact on local governments.

Thank you for your consideration..

Sincerely,


Jeff Haste
Chairman


Mike Pries
Vice Chairman


George P. Hartwick, III
Secretary