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ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

April 22, 2016

Mark C. Poloncarz
Erie County Executive
95 Franklin St. - 16th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

County Executive Poloncarz,

As you are aware, your Expanded Lead Poisoning Prevention Services initiative currently sits before the Legislature's Finance & Management Committee. Since many of us agree that the hazards of lead poisoning are something we must address, we are looking at ways to make your initiative a reality. However, we have hit a stumbling block with regard to the number of new positions created in your proposal. This Legislature is looking to make a commitment to smaller, more efficient government that still serves the people of Erie County.

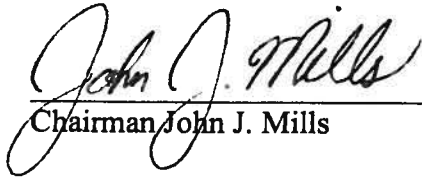
In that vein, we are proposing a compromise on your lead proposal. We have repeatedly heard your budget office tout aggressive vacancy control as a factor in creating our budget surplus. In fact, one of the most recent estimates of vacant positions was in the range of 200. Surely we can eliminate some of those vacant positions in order to add the 8 new positions called for in your lead proposal. It is time we start prioritizing what is truly important to our constituents. Clearly the lead poisoning issue should be prioritized over 200 vacant jobs, some of which have remained empty for a year or more. In short, this Legislative Body would like to see a net reduction in vacant jobs that covers the addition of jobs in your proposal.

We can work together on this to ensure swift passage of the Expanded Lead Poisoning Prevention Services initiative. If you would like to discuss the matter in further detail, please feel free to contact the Chairman of the Finance & Management Committee at your convenience.

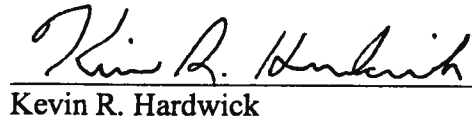
Sincerely,

Majority Caucus of the Erie County Legislature

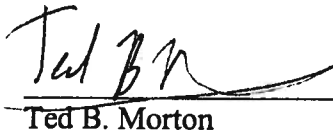
Re: Expanded Lead Poisoning Prevention Services initiative


Chairman John J. Mills


Joseph C. Lorigo - Majority Leader


Kevin R. Hardwick


Edward A. Rath, III


Ted B. Morton


Lynne M. Dixon