PATRICK A. GLEASON CHAIRMAN



OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

April 30, 1974

Mr. Charles Carson Assistant Attorney General Department of Law The Capitol Albany, New York 12224

Dear Mr. Carson:

As I mentioned when we spoke on the phone yesterday, it would be most helpful to this Committee if you would commit to writing a brief explanation of the manner in which the New York Attorney General's office acts as bond counsel in providing formal opinions in conjunction with the issuance of State General Obligation Bonds and Tax Anticipation Notes.

As I explained when we spoke, current procedures in Pennsylvania dictate that private counsel be retained to act as bond counsel for Commonwealth General Obligation Bonds and Tax Anticipation Notes. As you may have inferred from my comments, it seems to this Committee, at least upon first inspection, that the retention of counsel in such cases may involve needless expense since the matters appear to be susceptible to handling in a very "boilerplate" fashion by the Attorney General's office.

Any comments and/or insights will be most appreciated.

Gordially,

John Michael Willmann Special Counsel

JMW:pp