

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA, MEMBER

1216 WEST 26TH STREET
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16508-1520
PHONE (814) 453-7639
FAX (814) 871-4713

ROOM 30, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE (717) 787-4358
FAX (717) 772-2284



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN

February 6, 1996

Governor Tom Ridge
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Ridge,

On September 22, 1995 I asked your administration to convene a statewide summit to discuss and develop a statewide volunteer day where members of the community, local companies and union organizations can come together and help speed the process of getting high technology into our schools. Your Education Secretary responded in a brief note without an affirmative or negative answer on this important matter.

Yesterday you proposed spending 40 million dollars next fiscal year to help bring computers and long distance learning into our high schools. As important as your initiative is, we need to do more to stretch this money to provide as much technology to schools as possible. In fact we can act now and start bringing this technology to the schools even before next year's budget is passed.

On March 9th thousands of Californians will come together to help wire their schools. As the first public official in Pennsylvania to provide legislative information over the Internet and a fellow resident of Erie County I ask you to act immediately and call for a statewide summit to be held a week or two following the California event. Using the knowledge and experience from their event, we can then plan our own volunteer activities.

Your leadership is crucial in this area and I ask your support in this matter. For your information I will be introducing a House Resolution next week to endorse this summit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Italo S. Cappabianca".

Italo S. Cappabianca
State Representative

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA, MEMBER

1216 WEST 26TH STREET
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16508-1520
PHONE: (814) 453-7639
FAX: (814) 871-4713

ROOM 30, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-4358
FAX: (717) 772-2284



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN

PRESS RELEASE FEBRUARY 7, 1996

**CAPPABIANCA ASKS RIDGE AGAIN TO HOLD
STATEWIDE COMPUTER IN SCHOOLS SUMMIT**

2nd Request for a Summit to organize a statewide volunteer day
to help wire schools for the information superhighway.

State Representative Italo S. Cappabianca today asked Governor Ridge to convene a statewide computer in schools summit to discuss and organize a statewide volunteer day that would help Pennsylvania schools get on the information superhighway. Cappabianca pointed out that while he supports the \$40 million Ridge initiative to fund technology for schools, these funds are significantly below what would be needed to completely wire all schools. Cappabianca has an idea to stretch these funds by organizing a statewide computer summit to organize a public-private partnership to modernize our schools. "I think concerned Pennsylvanians would take a day and help our schools bring 21st century technology to our children," Cappabianca stated.

"But this project would only work with the leadership of our Governor, with the help of Pennsylvania's computer and telecommunication companies and the participation of parents, teachers and unions," Cappabianca stated.

California has already schedule a statewide volunteer day on March 9, 1996 and

Cappabianca hopes that Pennsylvania's summit would be announced as soon as possible and held in the days following this event so that we may learn from their experience.

Cappabianca wrote the Governor last September 22nd with the same request and received a response from Secretary Hickok without an affirmative or negative answer. Representative Cappabianca will be introducing a resolution next week to endorse this concept.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
HARRISBURG

ROBERT A. BITTENBENDER
SECRETARY
OFFICE OF THE BUDGET

August 21, 1995

Honorable Italo S. Cappabianca
House of Representatives
Room 30, East Wing, Capitol
House Box 202020
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-2020

Dear Representative Cappabianca:

This is in response to your letter of August 11, 1995 regarding Redevelopment Assistance Capital funding for the Warner Theater in Erie.

As you noted, Luzerne County has encountered difficulties with its convention center project. Luzerne County voters disapproved a bond issue to provide local matching funds for the convention center. However, in an effort to honor the State's funding commitment for this project, Governor Ridge has given Luzerne County until October 1996 to secure alternative matching funds. My office has had continuing discussions with County officials and it now appears that the project has secured the required matching funds from private sources.

Thank you for taking the time to make me aware of your continued interest in securing funding for the Warner Theater.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Bittenbender".

Robert A. Bittenbender

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA, MEMBER

1216 WEST 26TH STREET
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16508-1520
PHONE: (814) 453-7639
FAX: (814) 871-4713

ROOM 30, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-4358
FAX: (717) 772-2284



COMMITTEES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

December 13, 1995

Honorable Tom Ridge, Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor:

During the past few weeks you have worked diligently on behalf of KIDS II, as I have been working to provide state funds for winter heating. Unfortunately, neither of our proposals have seen marked success in the General Assembly.

That being the case, I respectfully ask that you give very serious consideration to using the funds previously appropriated for Equal Opportunity Education Grants, and currently languishing in budgetary limbo, to provide much needed emergency heating assistance to the poor and needy in our Commonwealth through LIHEAP. Your commitment of these funds to LIHEAP could significantly increase the number of families we could serve, possibly by as much as 300%!

Although we may not agree on KIDS II, we certainly must agree that people need heat and need our help to make it through the winter. The Federal government has turned their back on Pennsylvania. We can not turn our back on these people as well. Certainly you are aware of the importance of this heating aid, since as a Congressman you continually supported LIHEAP; however we have lost your voice in Congress. We now turn to you as Governor, to show that same support. Even under the best case scenario, (and according to DPW's statements) we can only count on \$25 million from Congress. You know that is not enough.

While we can all go home to warm houses, many of these families are literally days away from freezing. While we worry about what gifts to put under our trees, these families are struggling to provide just the barest of needs..heat. Keeping these funds pocketed away for a program that can, in reality not be implemented until next Fall, is not only unfair, but fiscally unsound. It is incumbent upon us to use these funds, available **now**, to save these people **now**. Winter is bearing down on us, and Christmas is only days away. I implore you to make it possible for families and children to survive this holiday season. You have the very real opportunity to make an immediate difference in the lives of families throughout Pennsylvania. I ask you to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Italo S. Cappabianca'.

Italo S. Cappabianca
Representative, 2nd District

**HOW THE KIDSII PILOT
PROJECT FOR SCHOOL VOUCHERS COULD BE
SPENT FOR WINTER HEATING TODAY.....**

COUNTY	NUMBER OF LIHEAP GRANTS 1994-1995	EST. CURRENT 1995-1996 LIHEAP FUNDS CAN SUPPORT THIS NUMBER OF GRANTS	USING THE \$38.5 MILL OF KIDSII FUNDS FOR LIHEAP ADD THIS THIS NUMBER OF GRANTS	ADDING KIDSII \$ TO LIHEAP LEADS TO % INCREASE IN LIHEAP
ADAMS	1,161	241	517	314%
ALLEGHENY	48,278	10,042	21,479	314%
ARMSTRONG	4,209	876	1,873	314%
BEAVER	9,901	2,060	4,405	314%
BEDFORD	2,477	515	1,102	314%
BERKS	4,678	973	2,081	314%
BLAIR	9,355	1,946	4,162	314%
BRADFORD	3,387	705	1,507	314%
BUCKS	5,972	1,242	2,657	314%
BUTLER	5,440	1,132	2,420	314%
CAMBRIA	9,716	2,021	4,323	314%
CAMERON	380	79	169	314%
CARBON	1,970	410	876	314%
CENTRE	3,197	665	1,422	314%
CHESTER	4,042	841	1,798	314%
CLARION	2,875	598	1,279	314%
CLEARFIELD	7,035	1,463	3,130	314%
CLINTON	1,960	408	872	314%
COLUMBIA	2,236	465	995	314%
CRAWFORD	5,549	1,154	2,469	314%
CUMBERLAND	1,768	368	787	314%
DAUPHIN	6,307	1,312	2,806	314%
DELAWARE	13,390	2,785	5,957	314%
ELK	1,071	223	476	314%
ERIE	11,797	2,454	5,249	314%
FAYETTE	19,111	3,975	8,503	314%
FOREST	309	64	137	314%
FRANKLIN	1,819	378	809	314%
FULTON	984	205	438	314%
GREENE	3,125	650	1,390	314%
HUNTINGDON	2,624	546	1,167	314%
INDIANA	5,569	1,158	2,478	314%
JEFFERSON	2,158	449	960	314%
JUNIATA	722	150	321	314%
LACKAWANNA	7,869	1,637	3,501	314%
LANCASTER	5,643	1,174	2,511	314%
LAWRENCE	7,712	1,604	3,431	314%
LEBANON	1,792	373	797	314%
LEHIGH	4,747	987	2,112	314%
LUZERNE	13,269	2,760	5,904	314%
LYCOMING	5,160	1,073	2,296	314%
MCKEAN	2,582	537	1,149	314%
MERCER	6,870	1,429	3,057	314%
MIFFLIN	2,574	535	1,145	314%

**HOW THE KIDSII PILOT
PROJECT FOR SCHOOL VOUCHERS COULD BE
SPENT FOR WINTER HEATING TODAY.....**

MONROE	2,577	536	1,147	314%
MONTGOMERY	5,345	1,112	2,378	314%
MONTOUR	461	96	205	314%
NORTHAMPTON	3,425	712	1,524	314%
NORTHUMBERL	3,053	635	1,358	314%
PERRY	1,241	258	552	314%
PHILADELPHIA	116,419	24,216	51,796	314%
PIKE	683	142	304	314%
POTTER	753	157	335	314%
SCHUYLKILL	5,326	1,108	2,370	314%
SYNDER	820	171	365	314%
SOMERSET	4,711	980	2,096	314%
SULLIVAN	286	59	127	314%
SUSQUEHANNA	2,239	466	996	314%
TIOGA	2,032	423	904	314%
UNION	908	189	404	314%
VENANGO	3,645	758	1,622	314%
WARREN	1,657	345	737	314%
WASHINGTON	8,690	1,808	3,866	314%
WAYNE	1,721	358	766	314%
WESTMORELAN	17,036	3,544	7,579	314%
WYOMING	1,332	277	593	314%
YORK	4,104	854	1,826	314%
STATE WIDE	451,254	93,865	200,767	314%
Source: LIHEAP Data from the Sept. 1995 DPW Report on the LIHEAP Program				

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA, MEMBER

1216 WEST 26TH STREET
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16508-1520
PHONE: (814) 453-7639
FAX: (814) 871-4713

ROOM 30, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-4358
FAX: (717) 772-2284

COMMITTEES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

December 18, 1995

Honorable Thomas Ridge, Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Ridge:

I was pleased to hear that President Clinton last night released \$578 million in LIHEAP funds, and that Pennsylvania should receive somewhere between \$30 million and \$40 million. As I have said repeatedly, the poor in our Commonwealth desperately need these funds, and they could not have come at a better time.

Consequently, I ask that you take action to expand the eligibility requirements for those applying for these funds. While I understand the need for the emergency restrictions previously imposed, I ask that those standards be expanded in anticipation of these additional funds. Whereas, eligibility was placed at 110 % of the poverty level, I ask that we return to the previous level of 135%. This will allow many more needy families to heat their homes this winter.

The people of Pennsylvania desperately need these funds, and desperately need your support and assistance. Thank you for your kind attention and consideration to this very important matter. It will certainly be appreciated by many.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Italo S. Cappabianca', with a long, sweeping underline.

Italo S. Cappabianca
Representative, 2nd District

ISC/cmr



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
of the
Pennsylvania General Assembly

March 9, 1994

A. Buzz Andrezeski
State Senator, 49th District

Linda Bebko-Jones
Representative, 1st District

Karl W. Boyes
Representative, 3rd District

Italo S. Cappabianca
Representative, 2nd District

James R. Merry
Representative, 5th District

Thomas J. Scrimenti
Representative, 4th District

Honorable Robert P. Casey
Governor
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Casey,


In the past few years your administration has sought to use technology to improve medical care and increase the efficiency of government. The Healthnet program is an excellent program to link rural and urban hospitals around the state. Your special assistant for telecommunications, Richard Walsh, has done an excellent job in setting up this program and working on telecommunications demonstration projects.


Recently, we have become aware of the Government Media Center project which will establish video-teleconferencing rooms in state offices in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh and a fourth unnamed site.


We believe that there is a strong case to locate this fourth media center in Erie. The extreme distance between Erie and Harrisburg, the frequent inclement weather conditions that hamper travel and the significant concentration of people around Pennsylvania's third largest city all support the need for increased links to our region.


Locating a Government Media Center in Erie would enable the state officials, citizen and institutions of the Northwest to participate in public dialogue. We assure you that there are many possible sites to select from in Erie including state offices, libraries and health care facilities. Thank you for your cooperation.

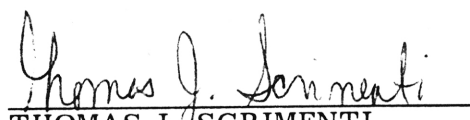
Sincerely,

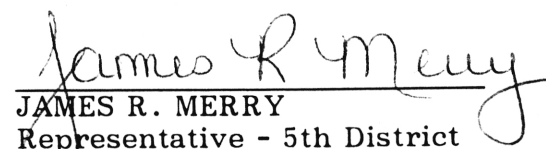

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA
Representative - 2nd District


A. BUZZ ANDREZESKI
State Senator - 49th District


LINDA BEBKO-JONES
Representative - 1st District


KARL BOYES
Representative - 3rd District


THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
Representative - 4th District


JAMES R. MERRY
Representative - 5th District

cc: Richard Walsh