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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

COMMERCE, SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR
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DEMOCRATIC POLICY
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TOURISM & RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NORTHWEST CAUCUS
SOUTHWEST CAUCUS

June 17, 2004

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

I am once again writing regarding the Butler County Health Center. It's been almost nine years since the county lost its State Health Center under a failed experiment of the former Administration. In the interest of protecting the public, I need your help.

When you were campaigning for office, my understanding was that this was a very important issue that would be given immediate attention, nonetheless, this has been a long, drawn out process that has yet to be resolved. Furthermore, it appears that I have been met with many roadblocks within your administration. After a number of meetings with you and Secretary Calvin Johnson promising to look into the issue and get back to me, I have yet been given the courtesy of a phone call regarding the status of this issue. I am once again asking for your assistance in getting the Butler Health Center re-opened by means of an executive order.

I look forward to a timely review and response of this imperative issue. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy A. Travaglio".

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT: mlp

CC: Secretary Calvin Johnson, MD, Department of Health
Dave Myers, Deputy Chief of Staff
Steve Crawford, Secretary of Legislative Affairs

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May 27, 2003

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

The Capitol Budget that was approved by former Governor Schwieker included a few projects that I would like to bring to your attention.

First, last year former Governor Schwieker signed the Current Capitol budget which allowed for \$3.6 million for the Stream Bank Stabilization project for Sullivan Run, which is located in the west end of Butler City. The project itself will help eliminate flooding in the area.

Former Governor Casey had initially approved \$500,000 to begin the project. The \$3.6 million is needed to complete the endeavor. The department of Environmental Protection has been working to design the final stages of the improvement.

Secondly, the City of Butler has requested \$1,859,000 for the Pullman Park Project. The money for the project will help with improvements that go along with Mayor Pintell's economic development project. Pullman Park is located right in the middle of this project.

Third, I would like to bring to your attention Butler County Community College. The Community college is asking that \$6,919,500 be released for Capitol Projects. A new student service building is to be erected; roadways and various other areas need much improvement.

With your approval this money can be released to assist these three groups to maintain the growth and improvement of Butler County. I would like to thank you in advance of your support and consideration of various projects in my 11th legislative district.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy A. Travaglio".

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT:mlp

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May 27, 2003

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

It's been almost seven years since Butler County lost its State Health Center under a failed experiment of the former Administration. I am fighting the Legislature to reopen this center, as well as the centers in Berks and Dauphin counties. But in the interest of protecting the public, I need your help.

The Federal Council on Public Health Preparedness last year released its finding that many communities throughout the nation are still unprepared to handle a biological terrorist attack such as smallpox and anthrax. Local health departments, it found, lack the facilities, staff and ability to deliver the vaccines and services needed to thwart an outbreak of this magnitude. In the same breath, the council concluded that while the federal government has the ability to stockpile vaccines and medications to fight illness, the strength to fight this warfare "has got to be at the local level."

With bouts of the SARS and West Nile viruses being found in the Commonwealth, compounded with elevated levels of terrorist attacks, it is essential that we open these centers for our residents. What's more is that Butler County is lacking an emergency response center in case of an attack. Pittsburgh's center is more than 50 miles away. Right now school nurses needing immediate advice when and how to deal with fumes in a school building must deal with poison control centers outside the area. Mothers-to-be must find alternative prenatal care.

My legislation, if passed, would immediately open public health centers statewide. At a policy hearing I hosted in Butler last year, former Department of Aging Secretary Linda Rhodes testified that privatizing these centers is jeopardizing your health. Furthermore, there is no proof that the closures have save any money whatsoever. A copy of her report can be provided upon request for your review.

When the Ridge Administration closed Butler County's State Health Center as part of an experiment in 1995, we lost a real community asset, as well as an essential tool in the war against terrorism. I am hoping you will help me push HB 713 to the forefront, or reopen them by means of executive order.

I look forward to a cooperative effort.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Guy A. Travaglio".

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT/lsl/mlt