

Philadelphians Against Subsidized Discrimination

December 14, 2010

The Honorable Michael A. Nutter
Mayor, City of Philadelphia
City Hall, Room 215
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3290

Dear Mayor Nutter,

Philadelphia is a city that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age and mental or physical disability. This commitment to equality and fairness is at the core of what makes Philadelphia the nation's Cradle of Liberty.

We believe all Philadelphians have equal rights, which are guaranteed under the Fair Practices Act, and should not face discrimination. That is why we urge you and City Council to defend the rights of gay youth, as you do all other Philadelphians.

The recent proposal to sell City-owned property to the Boy Scouts, at a big discount, to facilitate discrimination is contrary to the values and beliefs we hold most dear as a community. As history has shown, when we permit discrimination against some of us, we tear apart the fabric that makes us one.

The City should be working to guarantee equal rights to all of its children and adults. We call on you and City Council, to seek justice, and support the laws enacted by the City of Philadelphia, to extend equal rights to everyone and protect all of its youth.

As the Cradle of Liberty, we need to embody the values of equality, liberty and justice for all. We urge you to reject a sweetheart sale of public property to the Boy Scouts.

Sincerely,

David Adamany, former President, Temple University

Rebecca Baranowski

Chris Bartlett, Executive Director, William Way Community Center

Dwayne J. Bensing, President, University of Pennsylvania Lambda Law

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Michael Gallagher, Chair, ACLU LGBT Working Group
Bill Gehrman, President, Independence Business Alliance
Steven Getzow, former Co-Chair, William Way Community Center
Stephen Glassman, Chairperson, The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission
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Dan Gordon
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