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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

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May 22, 2017

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Special Counsel
Ballard Spahr LLP
1735 Market Street, 51st Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7599

The Honorable Rendell:

I am writing to request your presence before the House Appropriations Committee on Thursday June 15th. The committee will be looking into whether the Commonwealth should offer grants in support of specific political events or private events.

As you know, the General Assembly appropriated \$10 million for the Democratic National Convention which was held in the City of Philadelphia from July 25th to July 28th.

Given the media reports, backed by your own statements, it appears "surplus" funds were raised.

While the Auditor General is conducting an audit of the state funds, which we believe to be appropriate, this audit won't change the outcome. Had the taxpayers' \$10 million not been sent to the Host Committee, a surplus would not have existed in the first place.

In order to get a better sense of future legislative efforts, please expect to answer questions about how the surplus funds were spent. We believe your presence will help us all get a better picture of how this surplus was created and how it was spent.

This hearing will give you an opportunity to explain this specific situation from your view, as well as whether the state should continue to help fund non-state government functions such as political conventions. As the chair of the Host Committee and your years of experience, you offer a unique perspective and can provide details which can help legislators as we work to finalize the coming year's state budget.

I look forward to your reply to this request. After receiving your reply, we can discuss a specific time that accommodates your schedule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan", written in a cursive style.

Stanley E. Saylor, Chairman
House Appropriations Committee