

PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE 386 CITY LINE AVENUE PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460 484-927-5000 FAX 610-933-3189 BUSINESS OFFICE FAX 610-933-3707

June 15, 2017

The Honorable Warren Kampf 1501 Egypt Road Phoenixville, PA 19460

Dear Representative Kampf,

I write this letter to you today, on behalf of the Phoenixville Area School District Board of School Directors, to express concern regarding House Bill 1213 which you have sponsored. The proposed bill will greatly restrict the rights of school districts and municipalities to conduct appeals of under-assessed property, particularly large commercial properties. With this legislation, the Phoenixville Area School district could potentially experience losses in revenue from business properties, thus placing a greater tax burden on the homeowners.

It is unfortunate that counties across Pennsylvania are not required to perform regular reassessments. As a Board, we do support a thoughtful consistent reassessment process. To this end we urge you to consider amending House Bill 1213 to specifically require that all properties in the Commonwealth be reassessed every 10 years. We further propose that the reassessment should be rotational around the Commonwealth such that 10% of the properties are reassessed each year. Without this thoughtful addition, it could take decades before taxing authorities have the opportunity to balance the burden of property taxes.

The proper approach is to fix the current system that makes these appeals necessary in the first place, by reassessing every 10 years.

The Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District urges you to reconsider your proposed bill and seek to require counties to regularly schedule reassessments on a defined schedule.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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Kevin Pattinson President - Board of School Directors Phoenixville Area School District

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