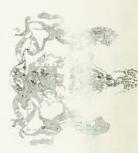
AND CAPTOL BUILDING
HOUSEBOX20200

FAX: (717) 783-0683



HOLDS LINGTHAN COMPLLES

House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

Date

December 17, 1997

number of redes Javino Burnini, sesser

FROM

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Key Reponers Karen Meister

Mouse J. Tolan,

House of Represe

717. 87- 838

Fax Phone

Phone Fax Phone 717-764-7801

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urgent

REMARKS:

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For you! review

Reply ASAP

Enclosed is a copy of the testimony we discussed. It was submitted and is to be typed into the transcript of the public hearing of the Subcommittee on Crime and Corrections on Senate 311 543 held on December 16, 1997.

1.5-2-2-21

BUILLE 1980 3. Z Harrisburg. If you ask the Mayor and his "full time codes inspectors", I live blight entire Harrisburg's committee I was shocked Thank name is Jim Kennedy. I own a minute. unit dewelling in the 1900 block of Derry street. or more probably, has simply lied about who is responsible. these terrorists more power will make you shiver the way it does for me you for allowing me NO. of the Woes neighborhoods." Mayor Reed has deliberately mislead you at Yesterday as I watched Mayor Reed testify before causes for our present situation, I am sure that the idea are all the result of a by his gall. He would have you believe to testify before single family group of terrorist property YOUR ewelling in the committee l explain that bit of lunacy After l've owners.

peeling paint on cutters severe. notes lists inspected by Harrisburg requires Such violations listed in the report when I purchased my property included You should know that their inspectors write three levels of violation with a Class "A" violation being the their codes enforcement officers prior to the that and downspouts, all property sold within it's 00. small cracks city limits * Violations sale. The in the 50 plaster walls (C) 0/88

These repair these "Class A Safety Violations" described by Mayor Reed yesterday, or pay fees to the city for permission to downstairs new owners an attempt by the city to bay room. are given the choice These inspections extort money from the property owners of facing the 976 not about safety. civil and criminal actions They are

triples Involved money pit that few intelligent people would knowingly choose to (2) nature National Historic Areas. character of their likely tenants, and the regulatory environment, Wayor has worked to have the cost of cooperating with their codes enforcement directives. and kind our repairs Such a that can be nuge designation places severe limits SUB made to a property and doubles areas of our city declared become 9 Given

educated, low income or welfare families into many parts huge low-income income almost an anomaly. He has encouraged the Wayorhas units in our city to the point that single family home owners like worked to increase apartments which concentrates arge Se numbers conversion of warehouse into of multi-family low ste unu of our city. They

those market for over a year; asking price \$49 remain ranch in our resources. children siums, of us who pay taxes in this city. They are on the 5 out of wed-lock; children who eventually overwhelm our schools Stake suburbs of Harrisburg. than my best friend who lives in a market in his area is in preserving The result; I pay more taxes for my little row home our quality of life about sixty days. I've had my home The average length of time that homes 000 and place \$110,000, three amazingly efficient at bearing 3 heav burden bedroom 9

Deating the property to vacate before 5 STO OTIN Harrisburg. law or ignoring court orders. harassment and intimidation to COX CO operated an unlicensed codes enforcement people in Harrisburg indiscriminately use custody of the system failed after a Governor's mansion. One on Liberty Street, and the other on second street across house. boarding house on the prolonged eviction battle with a dead beat tenant the trustee took possession. I was required to the notice In 1989 I owned two rental properties The later forced me into bankruptcy when the get their way, up to and including breaking the premises. The to all persons The codes COUR Was

home, change the tack the repair the garbage removal. They claim that my home is During that time, the City of Harrisburg, has powers. Additionally, my family has lived at our current address send tax bills, and threatening 3 relieved citation, comply with their order. no money and given the days notice. enforcement officers haited. money held 1 but given my previous experience with their codes inspectors abandoned The that only my family has lived there for nearly ten years. 0 日日の but they never rescinded the order. damaged the designation unless I allow them to inspect my home. of all responsibility or the debt I for the next several years. 70 City of Harrisburg, ignored the their focus. 03 shell when I moved into it. or worn out systems in my frome. threatened ordered me pointed pending bankruptcy, I would have And these notices to me, and recording 0 5 to provide heating oil for the Cite me out to them. 970 They did not care the people you want to for not giving the tenants charged me and ordered all collection agains Additionally after the Court order and ive spent thousands a two unit dwelling inspite The never issued 3 double proud 8 about the law, on tax leans commit fraud to continued to They refuse SINCE tenants for sewe My nome give 400 000 and

not voluntarily allow any city official to enter my home

buildings cause business to more out of my neighborhood commerce insurance were people go on for hours; and my taxes will go up 8 50 3 good neighbors abandon this businesses in our area Type and the second sec CIV. and their employees brought needed The mayor has and into Now we TO W other actions <u>න</u> ල DOWNTOWN. given tax incentives surrounded with DV OUR MAY Penn National

erected in front of the honestry sores pe The City has believe that the made a part of all new buildings in Downtown. created an artificial market for junk art by requiring DEP building is piece scrape costing tens of thousands Does anyone Tat Such of dollars

like myself who will have to pay the bills, wants artifacts, The Mayor's (O) City Island, a <u>(2)</u> multi million dollar play ground in the middle other pet projects include, a museum for stolen huge new high school that that's not needed and ELD. flood CIVII Var zone HOOME 08/0

year backs water onto my property, or cut back the tree that threatens And for all of that, I can't even get the City to another 9 street drain 50 3300

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hose like me that are still here will leave f you pass into law anything that gives these people more cower, the tre-Jusiness Inc ome from? grade teacher needs my wife to make copies for her job because lave adequate access to a copy machine. Where will the Vhy? You cannot convince me that it's reasonable when my son's served Te time I was out a formplained about it over five years ago ever ity ve described will accelerate. Fewer name owners will move into the his year the proposed budget for Hamisburg will exceed 35 million dollars gas and water lines. They planted that the intermedia These questions, and the answers to their are the reasons that bears, Ryder's trucks, and others have abandoned Harrist about 3.USB 12

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