

MOTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Supporting House Bill 528 (HB 528) which establishes a County Records Improvement Fund for the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds Office that will support the development and improvement of office records management activities and systems.

WHEREAS, House Bill 528 (HB 528) provides that an additional fee of \$5 be added to the existing recording fees charged by the Recorder of Deeds, from which \$3 would be retained by the office and \$2 would be placed in a County Records Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the \$3 fee would be placed in a special account allocated to the development and improvement of office records management activities and systems within the Recorder of Deeds Office; such funds could not be used as a substitute for any allocation of general revenues for the office; and

WHEREAS, recording fees in Allegheny County average \$40 and were last increased by \$10 in November of 2002 pursuant to an order by the Supreme Court for upgrades to the Judicial Computer System and are in line with other similarly situated counties; and further, the additional \$5 fee would be paid by the very users who would benefit most from its implementation; and

WHEREAS, similar legislation has already been enacted within the offices of Clerk of Courts, Prothonotary, Register of Wills, and Sheriff in Allegheny County providing almost \$2.8 million in 2004 special accounts for the upgrade of computer systems within those offices; and the Recorder of Deeds in counties of the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth classes received the ability to create such a fund in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Recorder of Deeds has instituted a state of the art recording system that includes indexes back to 1986 and images of documents back to 2001, that are available free on the Internet, benefiting the citizens of Allegheny County, commercial users, and other government agencies; an additional fee paid for by the users would allow future upgrades of the system and preservation of existing records and documents that are deteriorating;

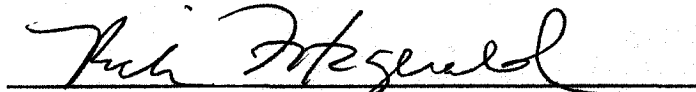
NOW THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED, AND IT IS THE SENSE OF THE COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, that this Body supports House Bill 528 (HB 528) which establishes a County Records Improvement Fund for the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds Office that will support the development and improvement of office records management activities and systems.

BE IT FURTHER MOVED that this Sense of Council Motion be transmitted to the Governor, the Allegheny County Delegation in the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives, and to the members of the House Urban Affairs Committee.

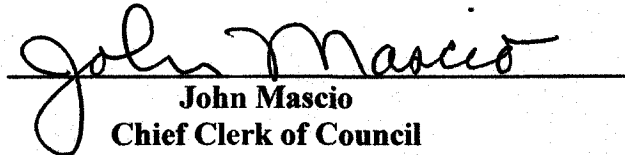
SPONSORED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT FITZGERALD

In Council October 19, 2004.

Read and Approved.



**Rich Fitzgerald
President of Council**

Attest: 
**John Mascio
Chief Clerk of Council**

Mascio, John

From: Mascio, John

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2004 4:24 PM

To: 'Governor Ed Rendell'; Gerald J. Lavalle; J. Barry Stout; Jack Wagner; Jane Orie; Jay Costa; Jim Ferlo; John Pippy; Robert J. Mellow; Robert Jubelirer; Sean Logan; Anthony DeLuca; Dan Frankel; David Levdansky; Don Walko; Frank Dermody; Frank Pistella; Harry Readshaw; Jake Wheatley; Jeffrey Habay; John Maher; John Perzel; Joseph F. Markosek; Joseph Preston, Jr.; Kenneth Ruffing; Marc Gergely; Mark Mustio; Michael Diven; Mike Turzai; Nick Kotik; Paul Costa; Susan Laughlin; Thomas C. Petrone; Tom Stevenson; Victor John Lescovitz; Angel Cruz; Charles McIlhinney, Jr.; Douglas Reichley; Jacqueline Crahalla; Jennifer Mann; Jewell Williams; John Taylor; Marie Lederer; Maureen Gingrich; Melissa Weber; Mike Horsey; Patrick Browne; Patrick Fleagle; Ronald Buxton; Scott Petri; Steve Cappelli; Thaddeus Kirkland; Thomas Creighton; Tim Hennessey

Subject: Motion of Allegheny County Council - Bill No. 1707-04

At the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on October 19, 2004, Council passed the attached Motion (Bill No. 1707-04) which supports House Bill 528 (HB 528) which establishes a County Records Improvement Fund for the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds Office that will support the development and improvement of office records management activities and systems.

Voting yes were Council Members Cleary, DeFazio, Fawcett, Fontana, Frazier, Jabbour, Martoni, Robinson and Fitzgerald.

Voting no were Council Members Gastgeb, Price, Rea, Shumaker, and Watt.

Council Member Francis was not present for the vote.

Your attention to this motion is requested.

John Mascio
Chief Clerk
Allegheny County Council

Mascio, John

From: Mascio, John
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2004 10:32 AM
To: McDonald-Roberts, Valerie
Subject: Motion of Council - Bill No. 1707-04

Dear Ms. McDonald-Roberts,

At the Regular Meeting of Council held on October 19, 2004, Council approved the attached Motion (Bill No. 1707-04) sponsored by Council President Rich Fitzgerald which supports House Bill 528 establishing a County Records Improvement Fund for the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds Office.

This Motion was forwarded to the State House, Senate, and the House Urban Affairs Committee.

John Mascio
Chief Clerk

10/22/2004