

MOTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, urging the General Assembly and Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to establish and adopt a "Buy American" procurement policy to stimulate the economy of the Commonwealth and promote the general welfare of its people, as well as the economy and general welfare of the people of the United States.

WHEREAS, goods produced in the United States are sometimes at a competitive disadvantage, especially in relation to goods produced in foreign countries that subsidize their industries and that have significantly lower wage standards than the United States; and

WHEREAS, in June 2008, Philip L. Rones, Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, reported to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress that thus far this year, nationwide monthly manufacturing job losses have averaged 41,000, about twice the average monthly decline of 2007 and three times that of 2006; and

WHEREAS, in Pennsylvania, manufacturing employment continues to decline due to increased competition stemming from reduced overseas production costs; and

WHEREAS, such a policy would act to prevent the erosion of the Commonwealth's and this Country's manufacturing base and to prevent the continuing loss of jobs to overseas manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, buying American made products will strengthen the U.S. economy and help narrow the country's growing trade deficit; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Allegheny County enacted a "Buy American" policy which is part of the Administrative Code, and is included in the Division of Purchasing and Supplies, Purchasing Manual, giving preference to American made or American-manufactured products; and

WHEREAS, it has been Allegheny County's experience that such a policy does not create any hardships in the process of procuring supplies, materials, equipment, etc.; and

WHEREAS, a "Buy American" procurement policy would enhance the Commonwealth's long-standing policy to aid and support the development and expansion of industry in the Commonwealth in order to foster the economic well-being of the Commonwealth and its people;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED, that, Allegheny County Council urges the General Assembly and Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to establish and adopt a "Buy American" procurement policy mandating preferences for the purchase of domestically produced goods in direct procurements by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in order to stimulate and improve the economic well-being of the Commonwealth and its people, as well as the citizens of the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Allegheny County Council that a copy of this motion be transmitted by the Chief Clerk of Council to all Pennsylvania State Legislators and Senators, and to the Office of Governor Ed Rendell.

PRIMARY SPONSOR: VICE PRESIDENT MARTONI

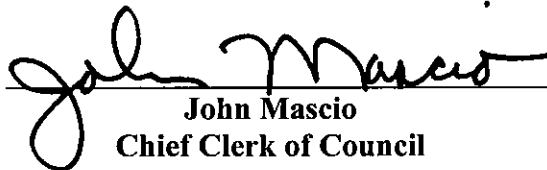
CO-SPONSORS: COUNCIL PRESIDENT FITZGERALD; COUNCIL MEMBERS BURN, CLEARY, DEFAZIO, DROZD, ELLENBOGEN, FINNERTY, FUTULES, GASTGEB, GREEN, MACEY, MCCULLOUGH, REA, & ROBINSON,

In Council July 1, 2008.

Read and Approved.



Rich Fitzgerald
President of Council

Attest: 

John Mascio
Chief Clerk of Council

Mascio, John R.

From: Mascio, John R.
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 10:02 AM
To: Governor Ed Rendell; Gerald J. Lavalle; J. Barry Stout; Jane Orie; Jay Costa; Jim Ferlo ; John Pippy; Sean Logan; Wayne Fontana ; Anthony DeLuca; Bill Kortz ; Chelsa Wagner; Dan Frankel; David Levdansky; Don Walko; Frank Dermody; Harry Readshaw; Jake Wheatley; Jessie White ; John Maher; John Perzel; Joseph F. Markosek; Joseph Preston, Jr.; Lisa Bennington; Marc Gergely; Mark Mustio; Matthew Smith; Mike Turzai; Nick Kotik; Paul Costa; Randy Vulakovich; Sean M. Ramaley; Shawn Flaherty ; 'Thomas C. Petrone'
Subject: Bill No. 4184-08 - Motion of Allegheny County Council
Attachments: 4184-08.PDF

At the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on July 1, 2008, Council unanimously approved the attached Motion (Bill No. 4184-08) sponsored by Council Vice President Martoni and Co-Sponsored by all Members of Council.

As you will read, the Motion expresses the sense of Council of Allegheny County urging the General Assembly and Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to establish and adopt a "Buy American" procurement policy to stimulate the economy of the Commonwealth and promote the general welfare of its people, as well as the economy and general welfare of the people of the United States.

Your attention to this Motion is requested.

Thank you.

John Mascio
Chief Clerk
Allegheny County Council