

**MOTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY**

Urging the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to adopt an Early Voting Program for all Primary and General Elections held within the Commonwealth.

**WHEREAS**, many jurisdictions have adopted Early Voting Programs, which permit registered voters to cast their ballots at designated locations during a specified period of time prior to designated Election Days; and

**WHEREAS**, some jurisdictions have also included Curbside Voting Programs, in which municipal employees bring ballots to vehicles driven to designated locations in order to allow a convenient opportunity to vote for individuals who have difficulty walking or standing for prolonged periods of time and who, as a result, have difficulties in voting in traditional settings; and

**WHEREAS**, programs often designate a time frame running from approximately two weeks through approximately four days prior to the designated Election Day for early voting; and

**WHEREAS**, when properly administered, the various Early Voting Programs appear to increase voter turnout and improve accessibility to the electoral process, particularly for the aged and ill residents of the jurisdictions that have implemented them, while not compromising the integrity of the electoral process; and

**WHEREAS**, it does not appear that Early Voting procedures are any more difficult to administer than the absentee voting procedures already in place in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED, AND IT IS THE SENSE OF THE COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY**, that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is hereby urged to adopt an Early Voting Program for all Primary and General Elections held within the Commonwealth such that registered voters are afforded the opportunity to cast their votes at a designated location within the municipality in which they live during a designated time period before all scheduled Election Days. It is the recommendation of Council that such time period be at least ten (10) days long, in order to afford the greatest practicable access to the electoral process for the residents of the Commonwealth.

**IT IS FURTHER MOVED** that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should also evaluate the practicality of including a Curbside Voting Program as part of any adopted Early Voting Program.

**PRIMARY SPONSORS: COUNCIL MEMBER DeFAZIO and PRESIDENT FITZGERALD**  
**CO-SPONSORS: COUNCIL MEMBERS MACEY, BURN, CLEARY, FINNERTY, REA & GREEN**

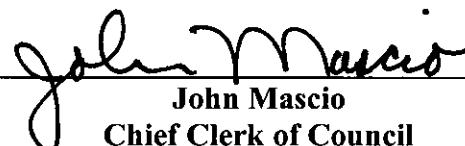
In Council January 6, 2009.

Read and Approved.



Rich Fitzgerald  
President of Council

Attest: John Mascio

  
John Mascio  
Chief Clerk of Council

**Mascio, John R.**

---

**From:** Mascio, John R.  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 08, 2009 10:43 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 Deasy; Dan Frankel; David Levdansky; Dom Costa; Don Walko; Frank Dermody; Harry Readshaw; Jake Wheatley; Jessie White ; John Maher; John Perzel; Joseph F. Markosek; Joseph Preston, Jr.; Marc Gergely; Mark Mustio; Matthew Smith; Mike Turzai; Nick Kotik; Paul Costa; Randy Vulakovich; Rob Matzie  
**Subject:** Motion of Allegheny County Council - Bill No. 4559-09  
**Attachments:** 4559-09.PDF

At the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on January 15, 2009, Council approved the attached Motion sponsored by Council Member DeFazio and Council President Fitzgerald; and co-sponsored by Council Members Macey, Burn, Cleary, Finnerty, Rea, and Green. As you will read, the Motion urges the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to adopt an Early Voting Program for all Primary and General Elections held within the Commonwealth.

The Motion passed by a vote of 12-3, with Council Members Burn, Cleary, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Green, Macey, Martoni, Rea, Robinson, and Fitzgerald voting yes; and Council Members Drozd, Gastgeb, and McCullough voting no.

Your attention to this Motion is requested.

John Mascio  
Chief Clerk  
Allegheny County Council