



PHILADELPHIA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SINCE 1958

October 15, 2013

The Honorable Lloyd K. Smucker
Chair
Senate Committee on State Government
Senate Box 203013
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3013

The Honorable Matt Smith
Minority Chair
Senate Committee on State Government
Senate Box 203037
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3037

Re: **Senate Bill 444 - Right-to-Know Amendment.**

Dear Senators Smucker and Smith,

I am writing to you regarding this pending legislation amending the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law. Two issues raised by this bill and pending legislation in the House (HB 61) could have a very negative impact on our efforts to grow the economy of the City and the State.

In our dealings with the private sector, we often enter into ongoing development or construction contracts through the Industrial Development Authority we manage, the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development (PAID). Under Section 506(d)(1), as currently in effect, PAID's agreements with those developers and contractors are subject to the Right-To-Know-Law, as are those subcontracts that are performed on PAID's behalf for work that PAID would otherwise be responsible to perform as a governmental authority.

However, the proposed language of Section 506(d) in Senate Bill 444 would require that "...any public records of the agency relating to the contract" be made available. We believe that this language is vague and overbroad.

As an example of how this language could be interpreted, take the case of PAID selling or leasing land to a private company to develop a factory. We agree that the agreement of sale or the lease agreement between PAID and the company is a public

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