



NEWS RELEASE

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DWIGHT EVANS APPLAUDS COMMONWEALTH COURT DECISION ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE RULES

PHILADELPHIA --- Mayoral candidate Dwight Evans applauded the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court for its ruling today to uphold Philadelphia's campaign contribution ordinance. While an appeal may still occur, today's ruling finally brings added clarity to the legal morass that was first created by the original legislation.

"I applaud the Commonwealth Court for its lucid clarification and enforcement of Philadelphia's right to regulate our own municipal elections," Evans stated. "Since February of 2006, I have fought at the state level to expressly give Philadelphia this right in order to prevent the protracted legal battles and regulatory quagmire we have found ourselves in these past few months."

Evans referred to his legislation, originally introduced at the start of 2006, which was designed to expressly allow Philadelphia to regulate its municipal elections. That legislation overwhelmingly passed the House but died in the Senate in the few legislative days remaining in the fall. Undeterred, Evans reintroduced the legislation on the first day of this new legislative session. The bill, House Bill 116, passed the House 112 to 84 and now awaits action in the Senate. It is supported by Governor Ed Rendell, the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, the Committee of 70, the NAACP, and the Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Council.

"While today's victory is significant, I will still aggressively pursue enactment of my campaign finance bill to ensure that Philadelphia's rights are protected from future litigation," Evans stated. "As Mayor, I will continue to uphold the faith and stewardship the people of Philadelphia have entrusted me with for 27 years. Open and transparent campaign finance rules are a key part of restoring the people's trust in government, and I will continue to support such rules."

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Paid for by Friends for Dwight Evans. B. Callands, Treasurer