

October 14, 2025

The Honorable Senator Kim Ward, President Pro Tempore  
292 Main Capitol Building

The Honorable Senator Joe Pittman, Majority Leader  
350 Main Capitol Building

Dear Senators Ward and Pittman,

It's time to end this budget impasse.

The Commonwealth's budget is 106 days late. Last week, the House of Representatives passed Senate Bill 160, a \$50.25 billion budget, with bipartisan support. It is the second bipartisan budget passed by the House that Senate Republicans have simply chosen to ignore.

In response to the House's efforts, and instead of staying in Harrisburg to vote on SB 160, you sent the Senate home until October 20, 2025. Sending us home without a vote is a slap in the face to the counties, school districts, human service providers, and others who are struggling to navigate this unnecessary, politically motivated impasse. That is unacceptable.

We demand that you call the Senate back to session this week so the Senate can concur on SB 160 and send it to Governor Shapiro for his signature. If put up for a vote, we believe SB 160 will pass with strong bipartisan support.

Governor Shapiro introduced his FY 2025-26 budget over 250 days ago. Since then, the House has passed two budgets (HB 1330 and SB 160) with bipartisan support. Those two budgets cut over \$1.5 billion from the Governor's original proposal in February. To use a term not heard in Harrisburg lately, cutting over \$1.5 billion from the Governor's original proposal shows the House Democrats, House Republicans, Senate Democrats, and Governor Shapiro are willing to compromise.

Conversely, in those same 250 days, Senate Republicans passed a partisan budget that funds government at FY 2024-2025 levels. That budget is unserious and is at least \$2 billion out of balance. It shortchanges everyone from our students, seniors, and veterans to our school

districts, counties, and human service providers. If enacted, that budget will result in huge local tax increases. That is not “compromise,” that’s recklessness - especially with the Commonwealth sitting on almost \$11 billion that can be used to make proper investments in our citizens. It is beyond time for compromise. It is time to end this impasse.

Senate Democrats are ready to vote on SB 160. Convene the Senate so we can end this. Now.

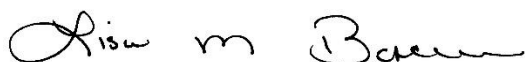
Respectfully,



Senator Jay Costa, Jr.  
43<sup>rd</sup> Senate District  
Democratic Leader



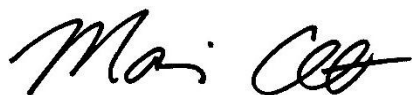
Senator Vincent Hughes  
7<sup>th</sup> Senate District



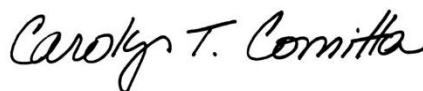
Senator Lisa Boscola  
18<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Amanda Cappelletti  
17<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Maria Collett  
12<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Carolyn Comitta  
19<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Marty Flynn  
22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District



Senator Wayne Fontana  
42<sup>nd</sup> Senate District



Senator Art Haywood  
4<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator John Kane  
9<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Tim Kearney  
26<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Patty Kim  
15<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator James Andrew Malone  
36<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Nick Miller  
14<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Katie Muth  
44<sup>th</sup> Senate District



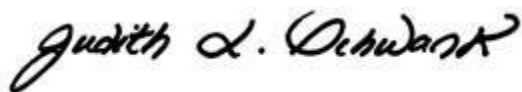
Senator Nick Pisciotano  
45<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Steve Santarsiero  
10<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Nikil Saval  
1<sup>st</sup> Senate District



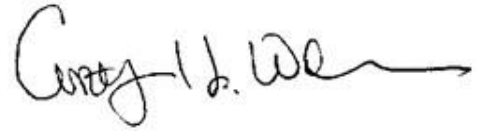
Senator Judy Schwank  
11<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Senator Sharif Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christine M. Tartaglione". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christine" being the most prominent.

Senator Christine Tartaglione  
2<sup>nd</sup> Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony H. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Anthony" being the most prominent.

Senator Anthony H. Williams  
8<sup>th</sup> Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lindsey M. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Lindsey" being the most prominent.

Senator Lindsey Williams  
38<sup>th</sup> Senate District