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Majority Leader



Senate of Pennsylvania

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October 12, 2023

Honorable Matthew Bradford
110 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2070

Dear Leader Bradford:

Moving the 2024 primary date has been closely examined by both the Senate and House of Representatives for the last several months. As you are aware, on September 20 the Senate took action and passed Senate Bill 224, to move next year's primary election to March 19. In the Senate we now consider this matter to be closed, thus the only remaining option at this time would be for the House to quickly revert to the prior printer's number on Senate Bill 224, sending the bill directly to Governor Shapiro.

Senate Bill 224 was passed by the Senate by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 45 to 2. The date of March 19 was agreed to in the Senate after much deliberation, as it respects the Jewish holiday of Passover and the Christian holiday of Easter. While the date of April 2 has also been considered, the Senate cannot support such a move due to the disruption preparations would cause to the Easter holiday weekend observances.

Given concerns voiced by counties, churches and schools, time is of the essence for you to make a decision on whether the House will also close the discussion or revert to the prior printer's number and send Senate Bill 224 to the governor's desk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Pittman".

Joe Pittman
Senate Majority Leader

cc: Governor Josh Shapiro