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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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HOMELESS  
LATINO AFFAIRS  
LGBT EQUALITY  
PA SAFE  
PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

NORTHEAST DELEGATION

September 17, 2020

Terry Jimenez  
Chief Executive Officer and President  
Tribune Publishing Corporation  
435 N Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Mr. Jimenez:

As the state legislators who represent the City of Allentown, we write to you today to respectfully request that Tribune Publishing Company maintain a local office in Downtown Allentown for the employees of The Morning Call.

When a major newspaper is headquartered in a city's downtown, it means more than having jobs and professionals in an urban core. It means that your town matters, that your residents are active and concerned citizens and that you are a place in which people should live and invest.

The Morning Call is more than just a place where people work in Allentown; it is a part of our region's identity. Furthermore, in our more troubled days when we faced the Great Recession and disinvestment in our urban core, the Morning Call stuck with Allentown as its home base. That is why the recent decision by the Tribune Publishing Company to close its doors in Downtown Allentown and reconsider where (if anywhere) you will operate from locally is such a blow.

Having an office in the city has created a lasting connection between your staff and your readers and is a highly visible sign of your commitment to Allentown. This has in turn fostered a deep loyalty for The Morning Call as we all believe there is a commitment to report on important local news.

Decisions such as these are not made by emotion, however. We certainly understand and recognize that they are made with an eye towards accountability to your shareholders and profitability. This is exactly why we believe it is in your best interest to maintain your local offices in Downtown Allentown.

Our geographic region is home to 675,000 people and generates \$41.2 billion dollars of economic development, making us one of the most important mid-sized markets in the

United States. We are home to major corporations including PPL, Air Products and Chemicals, Olympus, and Crayola to name just a few. We are also one of the few regions of Pennsylvania that is actually growing in both economic wealth and population.

The City of Allentown is the largest municipality in the Lehigh Valley and is the place where The Morning Call has called home since 1883. With a population around 125,000 people, home to businesses from the Fortune 400 PPL to mom and pop shops, several world class hospitals, two professional sports teams and three institutions of higher education, we are the economic engine of the Lehigh Valley.

In our downtown, we have seen massive growth in our economy, as in the last decade we have attracted nearly \$1 billion of development into the blocks surrounding The Morning Call. This includes new businesses including 1,500-employee ADP, a new hockey arena that is home to the AHL Lehigh Valley Phantoms, well-regarded and popular restaurants, and about a thousand units of new housing.

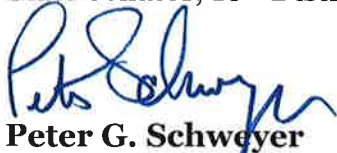
Allentown's cultural impact on the region cannot be underestimated as well. Within a short walking distance of the existing Morning Call newsroom are the nationally recognized Miller Symphony Hall (named after the former owners of The Morning Call), the impressive Allentown Art Museum and the renown Baum School of the Arts.

We believe that retaining The Morning Call as a business headquartered in Downtown Allentown is very important for our City, is good for your employees and is a smart business decision for the Tribute Publishing Company. Thank you for taking our opinions into consideration as you look towards the future of print journalism.

Sincerely,



**Patrick M. Browne**  
State Senator, 16<sup>th</sup> District



**Peter G. Schwyer**  
State Representative, 22<sup>nd</sup> District



**Michael Schlossberg**  
State Representative, 132<sup>nd</sup> District

CC: Mike Miorelli