

TABLED, August 18, 2010
Revisited, August 25, 2010

SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO. **SUBJECT:** Establishing a Policy Prohibiting Commissioners, Officers and employees from performing political activities while on duty for the Authority or using their office for political purposes

COMMITTEE: New Business

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: August 18, 2010

BOARD ACTION DATE: August 18, 2010

PROPOSAL: That the Board adopt a policy prohibiting Commissioners, Officers and employees of the Authority from performing political activities while on duty for the Authority or using their office for political purposes.

PURPOSE: To adopt a policy prohibiting Commissioners, Officers and employees of the Authority from performing political activities while on duty for the Authority or using their office for political purposes.

BACKGROUND: The Authority desires to ensure that Commissioners, Officers and employees of the Authority, due to their responsibilities to the Authority, devote their full working energies to the Authority and conflicts and appearances of conflict are avoided and that decisions made by or on behalf of the Authority are made without any appearance of favoritism or bias which may arise when a Commissioner, Officer or employee uses their office or employment with the Authority for political purposes. The Authority therefore seeks to implement a policy whereby all Commissioners, Officers and employees shall be prohibited from performing political activities while on duty for the Authority or using their office for political purposes.

The Board has reviewed the proposed policy and has considered the advice and analysis of its staff and certain of its consultants with regard to the policy and has determined that the proposed language is in the best interests of the Authority and the public it serves.

SUMMARY:

Amount:	N/A
Source of Funds:	N/A
Capital Project #:	N/A
Operating Budget:	N/A
Master Plan Status:	N/A
Other Fund Sources:	N/A
Duration of Contract:	N/A

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Other Parties Involved: N/A

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Establishing a Policy Prohibiting
Commissioners, Officers and
employees from performing political
activities while on duty for the
Authority or using their office for
political purposes

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board adopt the policy prohibiting Commissioners, Officers and employees from performing political activities while on duty for the Authority in or using their office for political purposes.

SUMMARY:

Amount:	N/A
Source of Funds:	N/A
Capital Project #:	N/A
Operating Budget:	N/A
Master Plan Status:	N/A
Other Fund Sources:	N/A
Duration of Contract:	N/A
Other Parties Involved:	N/A

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POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

SCOPE: Establishes a prohibition for all Commissioners, Officers or employees of the Delaware River Port Authority and Port Authority Transit Corporation (collectively the Authority) from engaging in partisan political activities during Authority time or by using their Authority office or any authority property for political purposes.

POLICY: 1. No Commissioner, Officer or employee shall:

(a) use his or her position, office or employment with the Authority to assist, participate in or influence any political campaign or to interfere with or otherwise affect the result of an election or a nomination for office;

(b) take part, directly or indirectly, in any political campaign or the management thereof while on duty for the Authority; or

(c) display a political picture or sticker on any Authority owned or leased property or wear any indicia of political affiliation while on duty or on Authority premises; or

(d) use Authority property or any Authority resources for political purposes, or to assist, participate in or influence any political campaign or to interfere with or otherwise affect the result of an election or a nomination for office.

2. Nothing herein shall prohibit a Commissioner, Officer or employee of the Authority from voting as he or she chooses, privately expressing his or her personal opinions on political subjects and candidates, attending affairs or events held for political purposes, or making political contributions with his or her own personal funds by the purchase of tickets or otherwise. However, Commissioners, Officers and employees should take care to avoid any appearance of impropriety relating to their Authority duties when partaking in such outside political activities.

3. A Commissioner, Officer or employee of the Authority may participate in civic or charitable activities that do not interfere with the independence of his or her judgment. However, Commissioners, Officers and employees should take care to avoid any appearance of impropriety relating to their Authority duties when partaking in such outside civic or charitable activities.

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