



U.S. MAYOR

Over 150 Cities Hold Mayoral Elections. 6

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In Memoriam:

THOMAS M. MENINO

53rd Mayor of Boston

*60th President of
The U.S. Conference of Mayors*



"Be as good to each other as you have been to me."

- Thomas M. Menino



Washington (DC)
October 23, 2014

Throngs of people in Boston came to honor the life and service of the 60th President of the United States Conference of Mayors and five-term Boston Mayor Tom Menino, the longest-serving mayor in the history of Boston. They came to Faneuil Hall to pay their respects. It rained. It even snowed. It was cold. People came to that special place for a very special man they loved and still love very much.

On the day of the funeral mass, the weather changed; it was cold but the sun came out and it was indeed a beautiful autumn day in Boston. Hyde Park was where Mayor Menino was conceived, born, baptized, attended grade school and high school. So it was most appropriate that the center of our being and focus at the final good bye was Most Precious Blood Parish, Hyde Park. Hyde Park is a true neighborhood of Boston; it is not downtown Boston. Hyde Park is Tom Menino and Tom Menino is Hyde Park.

The parish church was packed waiting for the body of the beloved Mayor Menino. Former U.S. Conference of Mayors Presidents, Mayors Flynn of Boston, Nutter of Philadelphia and Palmer of Trenton, sat with me and Ed Somers, my Chief of Staff. Both Senators Markey and Warren arrived, Secretary of State Kerry and his wife Teresa Heinz, Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, and Education Secretary Duncan all came by noon. And we waited in silence with beautiful music for a half an hour until we heard the drums. The pallbearers rolled the casket down the aisle followed by a grieving family. All eyes were on Angela Menino, Mayor Menino's partner, political and professional, who has been with him and supporting him throughout his outstanding service to the city of Boston and providing

total love and devotion to her husband and their family.

The new mayor, Marty Walsh, spoke first. He spoke from his heart, most seriously, and you could see how much he appreciates all that Mayor Menino has done for his city. His heart is deep for his city and the mayor who went before him. He grieves along with the people of the great city of Boston.

It was a high mass with Cardinal Sean and an army of top religious brass officiated. The precious grandchildren of the mayor gave their readings and personal feelings about their beloved Papa.

Governor Deval Patrick lifted our spirits with his very private personal stories about his unique relationship with the great mayor. Patrick recalled the first time he called him to ask for his support, and Mayor Menino replied with a resounding "No." But he went on to say, "I won't hurt you." And so the young Governor grew close to him and they became special friends and the Governor was one of the last to see and talk to him before he passed.

And finally, the speaker that really stole the show was Mayor Menino's Chief of Staff, Mitchell B. Weiss. His theme was: "I am your eyes; I am your ears," as he regaled us with Menino stories and had the audience clapping and laughing.

For 20 years, he was a great part of this organization, and I must mention two outstanding professional staff members of the Menino team - Virginia Mayer and Howard Leibowitz. As staff members, we grieve for them too. We appreciate their devotion, loyalty and public service to our great mayor.

It was mentioned by many throughout the funeral that Boston is strong today because of Mayor Menino. We look back at what Boston was in 1993 when it all began, and we can say when we look at Boston now that **this is THE House that Tom Menino built.**



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Boston, Nation Mourn Loss of Mayor Thomas M. Menino

By Ed Somers

The people of Boston, the state of Massachusetts, and the nation celebrated the life and legacy of Thomas M. Menino on November 3 during a memorial mass held at the Most Precious Blood Parish in Hyde Park – the church of his baptism in his lifelong neighborhood.

Mayor Menino passed away after battling cancer on October 30. Menino and his wife, Angela, were the devoted parents of Susan (and her husband, William) and Thomas Jr. (and his wife, Lisa), and grandparents to six much-loved grandchildren, Giulia, Samantha, Will, Olivia, Taylor, and Thomas III.

Prior to his retirement, Menino was the longest serving mayor of Boston, having been elected five times and serving from July 12, 1993 to January 6, 2014 – a total of 20 years, five months, and 25 days.

Mayor Menino also served as the 60th President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors from 2002-2003, where he focused on priorities related to housing, economic security and homeland security. Menino hosted a fantastic Annual Meeting for the Conference of Mayors in



USCM Food Policy Task Force Chair Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino and USCM Food Policy Task Force Co-Chair Vice President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake discuss with Baltimore press the importance of healthy food access in cities.

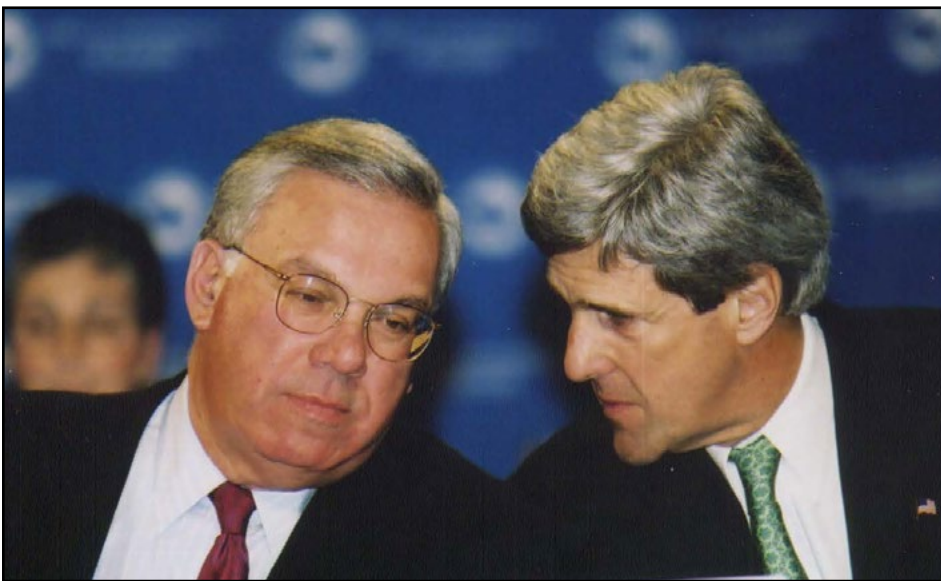
June 2004. And most recently, Menino helped found the Conference of Mayors Food Policy Task Force.

It is next to impossible to capture the emotions conveyed over the two days of mourning for Mayor Menino in Boston.

During the wake held at Faneuil Hall on November 2, funeral procession through the streets of Boston on November 3 and then the mass itself, dignitaries of the highest order came to pay tribute to the life of Menino and support Angela and her family – including former President Bill Clinton, Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State John Kerry, the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, Education Secretary Arne Duncan, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, and Governor Deval Patrick. And perhaps just as importantly for Menino, legends from the sports teams he so loved – Boston Red Sox greats Pedro Martinez and David Ortiz, and Celtic Bill Russell were with him for his final public event.

Also in attendance at the funeral where three Past Presidents of The U.S. Conference of Mayors: Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter; former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn; and former Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer – along with Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran.

But beyond all of the national and



At left, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino with then Senator John Kerry (MA).

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MENINO

from page 3

local dignitaries, perhaps most meaningful where the thousands and thousands of people – average citizens, former Menino staff members, friends and admirers – who came to Faneuil Hall and lined streets of Boston to honor and reflect on the life of Menino.

As was stated over and over again during the remembrances offered for Mayor Menino, nothing made him happier than helping improve the lives of his constituents. Bostonians, regardless of race, income, or profession, felt they had a friend in Tom Menino – someone who “got” their issues and concerns. For neighborhood residents, he was the “urban mechanic;” for teachers and parents, he was the “Education Mayor.” Environmentalists hailed him as the “Green Mayor.” And many knew him simply as “Tommy.” This was the sentiment so eloquently stated in the memorial program for Menino.

Leaders Remember Mayor Menino

Following are just a few of the statements offered in praise of Menino following his passing:

“We lost a warrior today. Mayor Menino was a true leader among the nation’s mayors who was always available for guidance and counsel to his fellow mayors. His legacy and commitment



At left, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino with USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran.

to improving the City of Boston, paying attention to details and striving for continuous improvement, will live on.”

– Conference of Mayors President Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson

“When he spoke, people listened. His presence immediately commanded attention when he entered a room. He had vision, but he was also pragmatic and never lost sight of the ‘working family.’ He was passionate about making sure cities got what they needed and was tough when pushing for the urban agenda in Washington.”

– Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran

“Michelle and I were saddened to hear of the passing of Tom Menino. Bold, big-hearted, and Boston strong, Tom was the embodiment of the city he loved and led for more than two decades. As Boston’s longest-serving mayor, Tom helped make his hometown the vibrant, welcoming, world-class place it is today. His legacy lives on in every neighborhood he helped revitalize, every school he helped turn around, and every community he helped make a safer, better place to live...”

– President Barack Obama

“With sheer determination and unmatched work ethic, he took a city that is not as big in size as we are in stature and put us on the world stage as a national leader in health care, education, innovation and the nitty gritty of executing basic city services...”

– Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh

“I had the amazing honor of counting Tommy as a mentor and friend. Shortly after I became mayor of Baltimore, he took me under his wing; and he always served as a spirited sounding board and counselor during our work together through the U.S. Conference of Mayors...”

– Conference of Mayors Vice President Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake

“The 20 years I’ve been mayor, I don’t think I did anything special. I did what you are supposed to do – help people. Take positions on issues that you believe are right. Never sell your ideals for other people’s special interests. And I want to say, I’ve enjoyed every day of it.”

– Thomas M. Menino, December 2013

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The poet R. G. Ingersoll could have been describing Tommy when he wrote: "When the will defies fear; When duty throws the gauntlet down to fate; When honor scorns compromise with death -- this is heroism!"

– Vice President Joe Biden

"I also admired the courage of Tom Menino in fighting his sickness and his love for his family. Boston is a better city because of Tom Menino and the people of Boston are grateful for his commitment and service. The day I left city hall to become U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican, I said, "The city is in good hands. Today, Tom Menino is in good hands."

– Former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn

"Tom Menino was an extraordinary leader and a wonderful friend. He and my husband Ted had a great relationship, built on mutual respect, trust and love of the city of Boston. And lucky for me, Tom and Angela and I shared that same warm friendship."

– Victoria Reggie Kennedy

"Boston has lost a political giant, and Diane and I have lost a friend. Our hearts and prayers go out to Angela and the whole Menino family. And we thank God for the service and the life of Tom Menino."

– Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick

"Others talked, Tommy worked. Crime fell, population rose, the skyline became world-class, schools got better, the financial, academic, and medical sectors thrived, and neighborhoods became more diverse. It was in those neighborhoods that Mayor Menino made his mark."

– Secretary of State John Kerry

Cards for the Menino

Family:

Mayor Menino's Office

Boston University

75 Bay State Road

Boston MA 02215

Donations:

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the [Thomas M. Menino Fund for Boston](http://thomasm.menino.org), so that the family can continue to support the programs that Mayor Menino embraced, and that helped so many.

Learn More:

You can read more about the legacy of Mayor Menino by going to the website <http://tommenino.org/>.

Oakland, San Jose, District of Columbia Among List of High-Profile Mayoral Elections

By David W. Burns

Over 150 cities hosted elections November 4 for mayor, with many incumbents cruising to victory, along with some high-profile upsets along the way.

In Oakland (CA), where their election uses ranked-choice voting, Mayor Jean Quan was defeated by city council member Libby Schaaf. Schaaf led from the very first round out of a field of 15 candidates with 29.1 percent of the vote. She would finish with 62.8 percent of the vote over fellow city councilmember Rebecca Kaplan receiving the remaining 37.2 percent in the 15th round. Quan finished third overall.

In the District of Columbia, Democrat Muriel Bowser defeated independent David Catania and Carol Schwartz with 53.9 percent of the vote. Bowser defeated incumbent Vincent C. Gray in the primary in April.



Oakland Mayor-elect Libby Schaaf



District of Columbia Mayor-elect Muriel Bowser

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Sam Liccardo, San Jose



Tallahassee Mayor-elect Andrew Gillum



Laredo Mayor-elect Pete Saenz

Current, Former Mayors Results in Races for Other Offices

By David W. Burns

Many current and former mayors from across the country were in elections for other offices this past Tuesday, November 4.

Conference of Mayors Trustee Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence was successful in her bid to represent Michigan's 14th Congressional district. She defeated Republican Christina Barr with 77.7 percent of the vote. Lawrence has served as mayor of Southfield since 2001.

Former Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper won his reelection bid for Governor of Colorado with 48.9 percent of the vote over his opponent, Republican

Bob Beauprez. Hickenlooper was mayor of Denver from 2003 to 2011, when he was sworn in as Governor. Hickenlooper currently serves as Chair of the National Governors Association.

Former Stamford (CT) Mayor Dan Malloy defeated Tom Foley in his reelection bid as Governor of Connecticut. Malloy won with 50.7 percent of the vote. Malloy served as mayor of Stamford from 1995 to 2009.

Former Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam was reelected Governor of Tennessee with 70.3 percent of the vote. This is his second term as governor. Haslam served as mayor of Knoxville from 2003 till he became governor in 2011.



Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence wins her congressional race.

ELECTIONS from page 6

In San Jose, with current Mayor Chuck Reed termed out, Sam Liccardo is the expected winner with 51 percent of the vote. In Anaheim, Mayor Tom Tait won his reelection bid with 54.1 percent of the vote.

Conference of Mayors Trustee Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer won his reelection bid over opponent Bob DeVore with 68.5 percent of the vote. Advisory Board members, including Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola and Santa Ana Mayor Miguel Pulido each won. Stodola ran unopposed while Pulido won with 50.7 percent of the vote. Another Advisory board member, West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon won his reelection bid with 83.8% of the vote, the highest percentage in the country where there was a contested mayoral election.

Tallahassee will have a new mayor next year with Conference of Mayors

Trustee Mayor John Marks not seeking reelection. Marks will be succeeded by Andrew Gillum, a member of the City Commission. Gillum will be sworn into office on November 21.

Conference of Mayors Advisory Board member Laredo Mayor Raul Salinas also did not seek reelection. He will be succeeded by Pete Saenz, who won his bid with 53.4 percent of the vote.

In Austin, a runoff between Steve Adler and Mike Martinez will take place on December 16 to see which candidate will succeed current mayor, Lee Leffingwell. Leffingwell did not seek reelection due to term limits.

Lastly, in Providence, Mayor Angel Taveras will be succeeded by Jorge Elorza. Elorza defeated former Mayor Vincent "Buddy" Cianci. Taveras chose not to seek reelection.

For a complete list of election results from cities across the United States, visit the Conference of Mayors Mayoral Elections Center website at usmayors.org/elections.



Providence Mayor-elect Jorge Elorza

Voters Show Support for Minimum Wage Increases

By Megan Cardiff

Voters made it clear in the Tuesday, November 4 midterm elections, that raising the minimum wage has bipartisan support. Four states – Alaska, Arkansas, Nebraska and South Dakota – overwhelmingly passed binding ballot initiatives to increase the state minimum pay above the \$7.25 federally mandated level. Voters in Illinois passed a non-binding measure, which calls on the state legislature to approve the hike and will not immediately change the current law.

In Alaska, 68 percent of voters endorsed an increase from \$7.75 to \$9.75 by 2016, while Arkansas voters approved an increase of the current minimum of \$6.25 to \$8.50 by 2017. Nebraska saw 59 percent of voters approving a bump from \$7.25 to \$9 by 2016 and South Dakota had 55 percent of voters supporting a wage hike to \$8.50 by 2015.

Voters in San Francisco also approved a ballot measure to phase in minimum wage increases overtime, reaching \$15 by 2018, matching Seattle with the highest in the nation. In Oakland, a measure to raise the minimum wage from \$9 to \$12.25 starting in March 2015 passed with 81 percent of the vote.

Tuesday's votes bring the number of states that have passed binding laws to increase the minimum wage to 29.

The federal minimum wage has not been raised since July 2009 – when the U.S. economy was in the depths of the recession. The issue has been a contentious one in Washington (DC), with Democrats in both chambers having intro-

duced legislation raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 by 2016 and Republicans blocking the proposals. Republicans have countered President Obama's and congressional Democratic support of the hike contending that, while raising the minimum wage would push many workers above the poverty line, it would likely cost many others their jobs.

A Congressional Budget Office report, released this past February, found that raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 from the current \$7.25 could result in job losses of 500,000 (0.3 percent), while leading to higher incomes for an estimated 16.5 million workers. The report estimates the increase would result in \$31 billion in additional wages.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors Cities of Opportunity Task Force, Chaired by New York Mayor Bill de Blasio and Vice Chair Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, released a letter on October 10 in support of increasing the federal minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour, as is supported by adopted Conference of Mayors policy. One of the focuses of the Task Force, which was formed by Conference of Mayors President Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson at the Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting in June, is to look into ways to combat growing income inequality in the nation. Through the leadership of de Blasio and Walsh, the task force supported the 10/10 Day of Action Campaign that included the letter of support signed by more than 70 mayors, and continues to push for a federal increase in minimum pay.



MAYORS BUSINESS COUNCIL

Member Profile

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION AND VISITORS AUTHORITY

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) attracts visitors by promoting Las Vegas as the world's most desirable destination for leisure and business travel. The LVCVA also manages the Las Vegas Convention Center and Cashman Center. Citywide, Las Vegas has more than 150,000 rooms and more than 10.8 million square feet of convention, meeting and exhibit space.

Las Vegas has evolved tremendously in recent years, and continues to capture the world's imagination as the one destination where nearly anything is possible. Beyond the 24 hour-a-day casino excitement are some of the best restaurants, the most unique entertainment options, world-class sporting events, premier shopping and fantastic golf – not to mention the greatest variety of meetings venues and resort accommodations in the world.

Special Interests: Tourism Development, Travel Issues

For more Business Council profiles visit the Conference of Mayors website at usmayors.org/buscouncil





By Lisa Sorenson

Conference of Mayors Joins Supreme Court Amicus Brief in Federal Agency Notice-And-Comment Case

In [*Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Association*](#), the Supreme Court will decide whether a federal agency must engage in notice-and-comment rulemaking pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) before it can significantly alter an interpretive rule that interprets an agency regulation. The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) argues yes in its *amicus* brief, which agrees with the lower court that significant changes to an interpretation of a regulation amounts to effectively changing the regulation, which requires notice-and-comment. Local governments frequently have been surprised by interpretive rules that have changed regulations.

In 2006, the Department of Labor (DOL) issued an opinion letter stating that mortgage loan officers who work more than 40 hours a week were exempt from overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act. In 2010, DOL withdrew the opinion letter in an "Administrator's Interpretation" that reached the opposite conclu-

sion. Since 1997, the DC Circuit's rule has been that, if an interpretive rule is definitive and an agency makes a significant change to it, the agency must first conduct notice-and-comment rulemaking.

State and local governments often regulate in the same space as federal agencies and are often regulated by federal agencies. The SLLC's *amicus* brief argues that requiring notice-and-comment for significant changes to interpretations of regulations will maintain the balance between agency discretion and reliance interests the APA was designed to protect. It also argues that allowing state and local governments to weigh in on problematic interpretations is far more efficient than state and local governments challenging them through litigation. And allowing greater state and local participation in the process will avoid or at least limit the risk to federalism posed by ever-expanding agency authority.

The SLLC's brief discusses a number of examples where federal agencies have

changed positions in interpretive rules. In 1993, DOL issued a series of opinion letters concluding that career firefighters who volunteered their services to private organizations had to be paid extra by whatever public entity employed them. DOL then changed its mind in 2001. And in a 2011 guidance letter, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disallowed wastewater discharge "mixing zones," while regulations previously allowed them. This guidance letter was successfully challenged in the Eighth Circuit in *Iowa League of Cities v. EPA*.

SLLC's brief which was joined by the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the International City/County Management Association, The United States Conference of Mayors, the International Municipal Lawyers Association, Government Finance Officers Association, National Public Employer Labor Relations Association, and the International Public Management Association for Human Resources.

USCM on the WEB

usmayors.org





By Laura DeKoven Waxman

The Obama Administration announced November 5 that it is seeking \$6.18 billion through an emergency funding request to Congress to enhance the nation's efforts to address Ebola at home and abroad. Of this amount, \$4.64 billion is requested for immediate response and \$1.54 billion is requested for "a Contingency Fund to ensure that there are resources available to meet the evolving nature of the epidemic."

According to White House documents, the funds requested for immediate response are intended to fortify domestic public health systems, contain and mitigate the epidemic in West Africa, speed the procurement and testing of vaccines

President Obama Sends \$6.2 Billion Ebola Supplemental to Congress

and therapeutics, and strengthen global health security by reducing risks to Americans by enhancing the capacity of vulnerable countries to prevent disease outbreaks, detect them early, and swiftly respond before they become epidemics.

Included within this funding is \$2.43 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), with \$1.83 billion earmarked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among other things that funding would support include more than 50 Ebola treatment centers through state and local public health departments, improve Ebola readiness within state and local public health departments and laboratories, procure personal protective equipment (PPE) for the Strategic National Stockpile, and increase support for monitoring of travelers at U.S. airports.

The request also includes \$333 million for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund. Of this, \$166 million would be used to respond immediately to patients with highly infectious diseases such as Ebola. Included here would be funding for the purchase of and training in the use of PPE at hospitals across the country and additional support for the more than 50 Ebola treatment centers. These centers are intended to provide a higher level of definitive care in an isolated setting with point-of-care laboratory testing.

Immediate response funds also include \$1.98 billion for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which is the lead agency for the overall U.S. response to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, \$127 million for the State Department, and \$112 million for the Department of Defense.

Of the \$1.54 billion requested for the Contingency Fund, \$751 million would go to Health and Human Services; \$792 million would go to USAID and the State Department.

While no funding is requested for the Department of Homeland Security either as part of the emergency response or the contingency response, the supplemental would provide the Administration with authority to transfer funding to DHS should the need arise. Currently, DHS is providing screening and other protective measures at the five international airports in the U.S. at which travelers from Ebola-affected countries arrive. These activities are being funded through a reprioritization of existing resources.





By Crystal D. Swann

Contained within the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) is a provision that ended federal funding for electronic benefit transfer (EBT) equipment for most supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) authorized retailers. The measure is projected to save taxpayers approximately \$154 million over ten years. The provision however may have a devastating impact on local food retailers in cities across the nation.

In 2004, when the food stamp program went digital, small food retailers and bodegas across the nation, and estimated 118,000, were provided special

EBT Provision Impacts Local Food Retailers

EBT machines funded through a state/federal partnership. The funding for those machines ended October 25. Stores will now be charged around \$1000 or possibly more a year to use EBT machines, supplies, and related services. The change has advocates and cities concerned about their most vulnerable populations as well as the health of the small businesses that rely on EBT transactions. Those retailers often operate on razor thin profit margins and may not be able to absorb the new costs.

As reported in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia has more than 1500 small, often family-owned, corner stores who may find the increased charges are "too costly," which may compel them to stop accepting SNAP. In Baltimore, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and

her administration worked with advocacy groups to inform merchants of the change and to help them prepare. About a third of the city's population relies on the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, known as food stamps. While chain supermarkets and larger grocery stores should be positioned to absorb the change, officials are concerned about the city's 800 corner stores.

City officials say it's still too early to know what the real impact will be, i.e. how many independent grocery and convenience stores stop accepting EBT but they are watching the situation closely. The federal law does allow states to exempt some food providers such as farmers markets and nonprofit food co-ops.

Application Period Now Open

Dollarwise Innovation Grants 2015

DollarWise will award grants of \$15,000 each to two cities to expand and enhance their financial education efforts.

[Access the application online here](#)

The deadline to complete the preliminary application is Wednesday, November 19

For more information on DollarWise and the Innovation Grants Program, contact Program Manager James Kirby at jkirby@usmayors.org, or visit the DollarWise website at www.bedollarwise.org.



USCM Past President Abramson to Lead White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office

By Ed Somers

Jerry E. Abramson, the current Lt. Governor of Kentucky and former mayor of Louisville, will soon become Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs in the White House.

Abramson, a five-term Louisville mayor, will join the Obama administration as the President's liaison to state and local governments. His resignation as Lt. Governor will be effective November 13.

In commenting on the new job, Abramson said, "The challenges that face America's local communities – such as workforce training, education, infrastructure investment, shrinking budgets, affordable housing, public transportation, and emergency response – are the issues that I've worked on for more than 30 years in local and state government. I'm honored to be in a position to help this country's mayors, county executives, governors and other local officials tackle these issues and work to find innovative solutions."

Prior to his election as Lt. Governor, Abramson served as the mayor of Louisville for over 21 years, the longest tenure for any mayor over the city's 232-year history. Abramson served three terms as mayor of Louisville in the 1980s and 1990s, and then left office and led the successful effort to unify city and county governments into a single, more efficient government. He was then elected the first mayor of Louisville Metro in November 2002 with nearly 74 percent of the vote, and was reelected in 2006.

Abramson served as President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors from 1993-1994, and led Conference of Mayors effort to pass the Crime Bill of 1994 that established the COPS program. He also helped lead the battle against unfunded federal mandates, which resulted in passage of the Unfunded Mandates Reform

Act one year later. For all of his work both in Louisville and Washington, Abramson was honored with the Conference of Mayors' highest honor – the Distinguished Public Service Award – that has been presented to less than 20 individuals.

Abramson will replace David Agnew, who recently left for a position in the private sector.

Cochran Statement on Abramson

Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran released the following statement on the Abramson appointment:

"Jerry Abramson is one of the most innovative mayors in our history. As President of The United States Conference of Mayors, he led the way for all of us to understand metro economies. He was the first and inspired me to create our Metro Economies initiatives. "He was the leader who worked with President Clinton and police chiefs and mayors to establish the COPS program and because of his leadership and our relationship with the President Clinton, we reduced crime significantly in our nation.



Former Louisville Mayor Jerry E. Abramson

"Today, the future remains in front of us. The people of our nation live, worship, play and work in our cities. Jerry Abramson lives and breathes this and he will help us move our agenda forward. "We thank President Obama for appointing the first former President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors to head up this special office. Two years to go. And believe me with Jerry Abramson, there will be new energy and new approaches all based on the fact that cities and our metro economies drive this nation. "On behalf of the nation's mayors, we congratulate Mayor Abramson and we give him our total support in the weeks, months and the years ahead."

USCM on the WEB

usmayors.org



Register online at www.usmayors.org/MWCDC14

MAYORS WATER SUMMIT

December 4-5
Madison Hotel • Washington (DC)

Mayors will convene in Washington (DC) to update public water information on:

- Keynote Speaker EPA Acting Deputy Administrator Stan Meiburg (Invited)
- Status of EPA's Affordability Clarification Memorandum to the Region
- Nutrient Load Mandates in California by Monrovia (CA) Mayor Mary Ann Lutz
- Learn How Lima (OH) Negotiated their Integrated Planning Sewer Overflow Consent Decree by Lima (OH) Mayor David Berger

Water Infrastructure Financing

- House of Representatives Report on Infrastructure P3
- Senior U.S. Department of the Treasury Official – Tax Policy and Water Financing
- Private Sector Financing in Nassau County (NY)
- WIFIA Implementation
- Modernizing Water Infrastructure
- Energy Efficiency
- Saving Ratepayers Money through Procurement Reform
- Protecting Homeowners from Leaky Pipes
- Advances in Nutrient Management

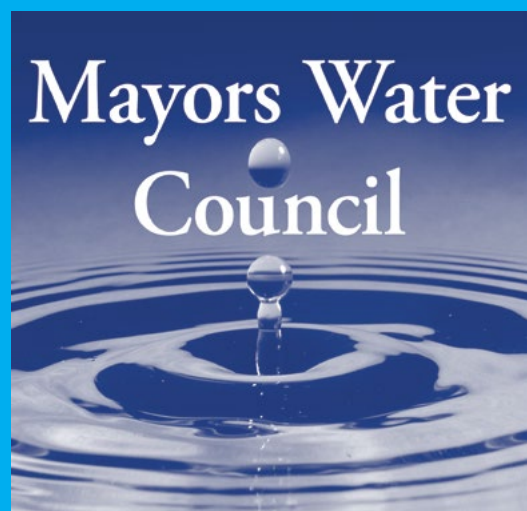
Regulatory Pipeline, including:

- Waters of the United States (WOTUS)
- Perchlorate

Meeting starts at 2 pm on December 4, with a reception at the Madison Hotel. Meeting ends at 3 pm on December 5.

Dress code: Business Casual

Staff Contact: Rich Anderson, 202-861-6795, randerson@usmayors.org



Calendar of Events

(Updated 11/06/14)

For updates or changes, check our web site at

usmayors.org

2014

December 4-5

Mayors Water Council Summit, Washington (DC). Contact Rich Anderson at randerson@usmayors.org or 202-861-6795. Registration Now Open.

2015



January 21-23

83rd Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting, Washington (DC). Contact Carol Edwards at cedwards@usmayors.org or 202-293-7330; Sponsorship: Geri Powell at gpowell@usmayors.org or 202-861-6774. Registration Now Open.

June 19-22

83rd Annual Conference of Mayors, San Francisco. Contact: Carol Edwards at cedwards@usmayors.org or 202-293-7330; Sponsorship: Geri Powell at gpowell@usmayors.org or 202-861-6774. Registration Opens Spring 2015.

MAYORS BUSINESS COUNCIL

Member Profile

GENERAL ELECTRIC

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For more Business Council profiles visit the Conference of Mayors website at usmayors.org/buscouncil



USCM Executive Director and CEO Tom Cochran met with new Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Jane Chu. USCM has a long history in supporting funding for the NEA, and the NEA is a major funder of the Mayors Institute on City Design Program. The two executives discussed other areas their two organizations can collaborate on.

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