



City of Cambridge

30.

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 7, 1991

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record urging Speaker Charles F. Flaherty and the members of the Cambridge delegation to vote to override Governor Weld's veto of the Asylum Representation Project Funds from the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation's budget.

In City Council August 7, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph E. Connarton".

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk

Cambridgeport Problem Center, Inc.

Legal Services & Psychological Counseling for Low Income People

One West Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

617-661-1010 * TDD 617-661-1216 * FAX 617-661-3289

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July 16, 1991

Alice K. Wolf
Mayor
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mayor Wolf:

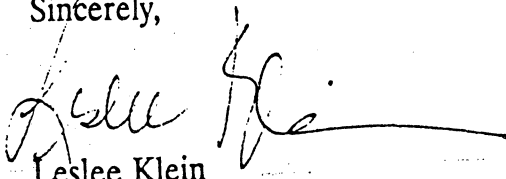
I am writing to apprise you that, without notice, Governor Weld has vetoed all but two months of the Asylum Representation Project (ARP) funds from Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation's (MLAC) budget. ARP funds were distributed to five agencies throughout the state; three of them in Cambridge : Cambridgeport Problem Center, Cambridge & Somerville Legal Services (CASLS), and Centro Presente.

As you know the ARP has been instrumental in gaining permanent legal status for many Cambridge residents who are refugees from war-torn and economically ravaged countries like Haiti, Guatemala; Ethiopia, and El Salvador, enabling many of them to become productive members of our community. The fact that three of the five agencies are located in Cambridge, a sanctuary city with a reputation for welcoming new and diverse cultures, has not happened by coincidence. All of the Cambridge agencies have felt a sense of support from and shared mission with the city of Cambridge.

The five agency directors met yesterday to attempt to come up with a plan that would forestall the elimination on this very important project. The only concrete piece of information I can give you is that the project will run through the end of August. CPC and CASLS will not take on any new cases. Centro Presente will be on limited intake. Governor Weld's unexpected attack on our Asylum work will mean, in all likelihood, that our collective work to attain asylum and safe haven for refugees cannot continue.

As soon as I have any additional information about the status of these programs I will let you know. Until that time if you or any of the City Councilors have any questions please contact me or Oscar Chacon at Centro Presente or Jack Boesen at CASLS.

Sincerely,


Leslee Klein
Executive Director

cc: Jill Herald
Frances H. Duehay
Walter Sullivan
William Walsh
Sheila Russell
Jonathan Myers
Ken Reeves
Timothy Toomey
Ed Cyr

Councillor Toomey.

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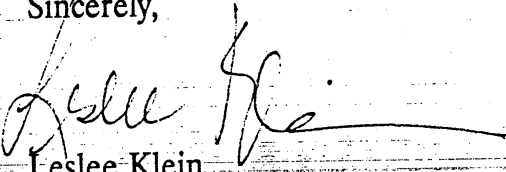
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Joseph E. Conerton
City Clerk

CONSENT ORDER # 30

5-845

Councillor Toomey re: vote to override
Governor Weld's veto of the Asylum
Representation Project Funds.

In City Council,

August 7, 1991

Order adopted