

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HOSPITAL AND WELFARE
1493 CAMBRIDGE STREET CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Telephone 354-2020

January 6, 1983

Mr. Joseph J. Cellucci
Superintendent
Building Department
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Cellucci:

The Cambridge Health Policy Board has reviewed the proposed City Ordinance creating an Inspectional Services Department and effecting a merger of the Health and Building Departments. The Board finds this proposal unacceptable and believes that such a merger would be detrimental to the public health of the citizens of Cambridge.

Although we recognize the need to reduce duplicate inspections, we are strongly opposed to any effort to divest the Health Department of its control of inspectional powers. The skills and expertise of the Sanitary and Code Enforcement Inspectors are very different from the ones required for building inspections. Although we do not wish to diminish the importance of Building Department functions in regard to multi-family units, access to fire escapes, etc., serious housing and restaurant code violations which can and do affect public health should remain under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Health.

The Public Health Subcommittee of the Board is willing to work with the Building Department to establish a system of coordinated visits designed to reduce duplication of inspections and increase the efficiency of both departments.

Sincerely,

CAMBRIDGE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

Penny H. Feldman
Penny H. Feldman, Ph.D., Chairman

Oliver E. Farnum
Oliver E. Farnum, Vice Chairman

cc: Robert W. Healy
City Council members

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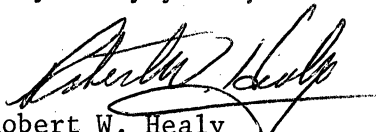
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

January 10, 1983

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Enclosed please find copy of a communication from the Cambridge Health Policy Board relative to the proposed City Ordinance creating a merger of the Health and Building Departments, which the Board finds unacceptable.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mbf
Enc.

Agenda Item Number Ten

S 22

Re: comm. from the Cambridge Health Policy in
opposition to a proposed ordinance to create
a merger of the Health & Building Dept.'s.

*Copy sent to CWSullivan Chairman,
Comm. on Ordinances 1/11/83 mh*

In City Council,

January 10, 1983

1/10/83

*Referred to the
Committee on Ordinances*