



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

Introduced: 5/18/2004

Bill No: 2004-0388, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Passed Finally

Presented by Mr. Hertzberg

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Charter of the City of Pittsburgh requires the Mayor to annually prepare and City Council to enact a balanced Operating Budget; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Pittsburgh in November of 2002 submitted a 2003 City Operating Budget to City Council that, without revenue sources conditioned upon new taxing powers from the State General Assembly, was significantly out of balance; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding extensive efforts by the Mayor, City Council and others, the General Assembly has yet to provide the City of Pittsburgh with any new taxing powers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Pittsburgh in November of 2003 submitted a 2004 City Operating Budget to City Council that, without revenue sources conditioned upon new taxing powers from the State General Assembly, again was significantly out of balance; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2004 the State General Assembly enacted and the Governor signed Act 11, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Act for the City of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, Act 11 requires the City of Pittsburgh to develop a five year financial plan that "shall not include projected revenue that in order to be collected requires the enactment by the General Assembly of new taxing powers" Section 208 (C)(1)) as well as annual budgets that "shall not include projected revenues that in order to be collected require the enactment by the General Assembly of new taxing powers" (Section 208 (F)); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Pittsburgh on May 12, 2004 submitted to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority a five year financial plan developed without meaningful input from Pittsburgh City Council; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding a vocal minority of Pittsburgh City Council rejecting the Mayor's unbalanced 2003 budget, a majority of Pittsburgh City Council rejecting the Mayor's unbalanced 2004 budget and the directive in Act 11, the five year financial plan developed by the Mayor clearly included "projected revenue that in order to be collected requires the enactment by the General Assembly of new taxing powers";

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Pittsburgh declares that:

1. The Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority of Pittsburgh is required to reject the Mayor's five year financial plan for its disregard of the balance of revenues and expenses required by Pittsburgh's Home Rule Charter and State Act 11;

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2. The Mayor is authorized and requested to promptly confer, consult and receive input from all nine elected members of Pittsburgh City Council in preparing the five year financial plan now required by Act 11;
3. If the revised five year financial plan is balanced through reductions in expenditures, the resulting dramatic cuts in City programs, services and facility closures will be the best proof to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority of Pittsburgh that it is not feasible for the City of Pittsburgh to survive the current financial crisis without new sources of revenue;
4. It is in the best interests of the residents and businesses of the City of Pittsburgh that City Government not violate the intention of Act 11 and that Pittsburgh's elected officials instead seek establishment of a working relationship with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority of Pittsburgh.

**SPONSORED BY COUNCILMAN ALAN HERTZBERG, GENE RICCIARDI, LUKE RAVENSTAHL
JIM MOTZNIK, WILLIAM PEDUTO , DOUG SHIELDS**