

NEW YORK
CITY BAR

January 7, 2010

Hon. Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

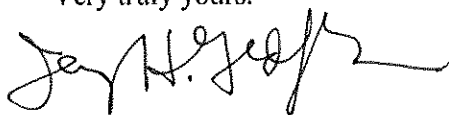
We write to support your intention to appoint a new City Charter Revision Commission.

During the next four years, you will have an historic opportunity to address issues of effective governance of the City of New York. A new Charter Commission, already legally required to review the entire Charter, has the potential during your third term to independently develop and assess reform proposals that could meet the challenges of our City's future. We ask that you appoint a commission promptly and encourage a full and rigorous review of the Charter. The Association would be pleased to be partners in this process.

Accordingly, we hope that you will appoint Commission members who are knowledgeable about and experienced in New York City affairs and who reflect our diverse electorate. We believe the chairman should not be serving currently in an elective, appointive or employee capacity with the City. The Commission should, moreover, be supported by a high quality staff that is independent and resourceful. And there should be multiple hearings in all five boroughs of the City – both early in the Commission's tenure, to elicit reform proposals, and subsequently, to hear responses to the Commission's preliminary Charter revisions. A measure of the new Commission's success will be that its ultimate proposals are a result of serious and intensive study, broad-based and meaningful participation, and civic virtue.

We look forward to working with you at all stages of this process, and we wish you great success as you enter your next four years in office.

Very truly yours,



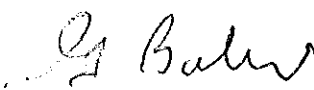
Jerry H. Goldfeder
Chair, Committee on Election Law



William C. Viets
Chair, Committee on New York City Affairs



Adrienne Ward
Chair, Committee on Administrative Law



Gregory Ballard
Chair, Committee on Government Ethics