Assemblyman Anthony M. Bucco 10 Janet Road Boonton, NJ 07005

Chairman Ron DeFilippis

Morris County Republican Committee 51 Gibraltar Drive Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Chairman Al Gaburo

Somerset County Republican Organization 66 East Main Street Somerville, NJ 08876

Dear Chairmen DeFilippis and Gaburo,

Please accept this letter as notification of my intent to pursue the 25th District Senate seat that has become vacant as the result of my father's passing.

It is, of course, with an incredibly heavy heart that I am in a situation to pursue this vacancy in the first place. My father served New Jersey proudly from the day of his election to the Senate in 1997, and I would be honored and humbled to follow in his footsteps if selected by the County Committee members at the special convention scheduled for October 15th.

I obviously did not want for this vacancy to occur. Unfortunately, we are not allowed the opportunity to choose when we say goodbye to those we love. While there is never good timing for something like this to happen, I understand the particular difficulty of this timing as it relates to the general election for State Assembly this November. Since it is not legally permissible to replace me on the ballot, please know that it is my full intention to run in the Assembly race as hard as always through the finish line.

It is important for everyone to know that I do not feel entitled to this Senate seat or that it is owed to me. I have worked hard for all that I have achieved and just like everything else in my life, it is something that I intend to earn based on my own record of service to the people of the 25th district. I wouldn't want it any other way.

I have served as a volunteer firefighter in the Town of Boonton for almost 40 years. I served on the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, and helped found Daytop New Jersey, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center for teenagers in Mendham.

As a Republican legislator, I ascended to the position of Conference Leader for the Republican Party in the New Jersey General Assembly. As an Assemblyman, I have never voted for a tax increase, and I have always worked tirelessly to keep Democrats and their policies in check, despite never being in the majority during my almost decade in Trenton. My fight continues to this day as Governor Murphy and the Democrat majority have voted to raise taxes over 20 times since the Governor took office.

I have fought hard for the 25th district's local priorities as well. I took the lead on guiding our local officials through the Lake Hopatcong situation this summer. I created a local coalition of school district leaders to tell Governor Murphy, loud and clear, that his school funding formula is crushing our school districts. I am fighting against Trenton's affordable housing mandates that would crush our municipalities. While I have had to stand up against many harmful Democrat policies, I was able to do so without losing the respect of my colleagues from across the aisle. As a result, I have had multiple pieces of legislation signed into law covering numerous

subjects and, most importantly, a few that keep our schools and communities safe.

It is for these reasons that I have decided to seek to fill my father's Senate seat on October 15th. If granted the opportunity to serve in the Senate, I intend to fight as hard as I possibly can for the 25th district, just as I have as an Assemblyman.

Thank you for your support over the years. I look forward to seeing you at the convention.

Sincerely,

Assemblyman Anthony M. Bucco