Report from the House Ethics Committee

In re Complaint of Representative Mike May

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

The House Ethics Committee (Committee) appointed pursuant to House Rule 49 has met to consider the Complaint filed by House Minority Leader Mike May against Representative David Balmer, dated December 16, 2008. The Committee met on January 7, 2009, January 20, 2009, and January 28, 2009. While House Rule 49 (c) prevents committees appointed pursuant to that rule from receiving testimony during the preliminary investigation stage, this Committee made its best efforts to compile documentation allowable by the rule that would help shed light on the issues under its consideration. In its investigation, the Committee carefully considered the evidence compiled pursuant its requests. Minutes of these discussions and actions taken at those meetings, along with the evidentiary information collected, are maintained by the Legislative Council staff and may be reviewed at that office.

The Committee recognizes that members of the General Assembly should hold themselves to the highest ethical standards. Accordingly, the members of the Committee take very seriously their responsibility and obligation under House Rule 49, when investigating one of their own, to preserve the public's confidence in the legislative institution.

Based upon its preliminary investigation, the Committee, by a unanimous vote, found that there was no probable cause to believe that an ethics violation had occurred on the part of Representative Balmer and therefore dismissed the Complaint.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of January 2009.

Claire Levy, Chair

Joel Judd

Ken Summers

Fom Massey, Vice Chair

Kathleen Curry