



GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF ILLINOIS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

David P. Eldridge
Assistant Counsel to the Speaker
House of Representatives

410 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62707
(217) 782-0271
Fax: (217) 557-7599

June 15, 2005

Mr. Van Johnson, Mayor
City of Carlyle
850 Franklin Street
Carlyle, IL 62231

RE: Application of Bill Gruen

Dear Mayor Van Johnson:

I write to recommend Bill Gruen for employment with your organization.

Over the past year and half, Bill and I have worked together as staff to the Illinois House of Representatives Executive Committee—Bill for the Republican Caucus and I for the Democratic Majority. Yet, I have never thought of Bill in a partisan sense. He is a colleague. We both work together to make certain the committee runs smoothly. Whenever he believes that I need to know something of relevance to the Chair's operation of the committee, he is forthright and notifies me as soon as he may. Further, despite the continuous pace of activity around the Capitol and the shear volume of work staff has to handle, Bill is the consummate professional and very skilled at handling complex legislation.

Without any reservation, I highly recommend Bill Gruen to represent and serve the City of Carlyle.

If you would like to speak with me regarding Mr. Gruen, please feel free to contact me at (217) 782-0271.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. P. Eldridge".

David P. Eldridge
Assistant Counsel to the Speaker
Illinois House of Representatives



CAPITOL OFFICE:

200-4N STRATTON OFFICE BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-1840
217/782-2289 FAX

DISTRICT OFFICE:

220 WEST STATE STREET
P.O. BOX 160
JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS 62651
217/243-6221
217/245-2071 FAX

Jim Watson

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 97TH DISTRICT

Mr. Van Johnson, Mayor
City of Carlyle
850 Franklin Street
Carlyle, IL 62231

Dear Mayor Johnson,

The purpose of this letter is to forward my recommendation of Bill Gruen for the position of City Administrator. Overall, I think you will find Bill to be a person in whom you will have great confidence to administer and supervise City functions, to lead the City of Carlyle in its economic endeavors, and to be a pleasant individual with whom to work.

I have worked with Bill and have been impressed with his personality, job performance, and friendly attitude. His positions as Floor Manager and legislative analyst includes focusing on issues related to economic development, business and labor law, and the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO). As Floor Manager, Bill spends every moment that the House is in session on the House Floor assisting members with their legislative questions and procedural inquiries. House rules and procedures are quite complicated, and he is reliable to provide advice when needed.

Bill and I have also spoken on numerous occasions regarding economic development issues. He is very knowledgeable regarding the programs administered by DCEO, and he speaks eloquently about how the State and local governments should go about the process of economic development. Clearly, he has put a significant amount of time considering and studying these issues.

Moreover, I have found Bill to be very approachable and easy to work with. He is extremely respectful of elected officials and his colleagues. Furthermore, Bill easily hovers above the partisan fray that sometimes exist between Republicans and Democrats in Springfield. He is more concerned with what is right for Illinois and its regions, rather than what is partisan and divisive.

As City Administrator for the City of Carlyle he would be dependable both professionally and personally. I am confident that the entire City of Carlyle will also be impressed with his professionalism, attitude, and expertise of economic development issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Watson".

Representative Jim Watson



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPUBLICAN STAFF
TOM CROSS, REPUBLICAN LEADER

June 20, 2005

City of Carlyle
Mayor Van Johnson
850 Franklin Street
Carlyle, Illinois 62231

Dear Mayor Johnson:

I am writing to give a strong recommendation on behalf of Bill Gruen in your consideration of the City Administrator position. I have known Bill since 1999 when he began his public service career through the Illinois Legislative Internship program. Bill has consistently impressed me with his maturity and professionalism, in addition to his intellect and communication skills.

Bill's job responsibilities as a legislative analyst involve researching and analyzing law and government policy. He has been House Republican Leader Tom Cross' research and appropriations analyst and top advisor covering economic development, business, and labor issues for the last three years. He is also assigned duties to monitor the annual budgets of the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity and the Department of Corrections. Bill manages legislation on the House floor for the Republican caucus, wherein he tracks legislation being debated and provides analyses to members on each bill. I am confident in saying that Bill is very well-known and respected by all members of the Republican caucus of the House of Representatives.

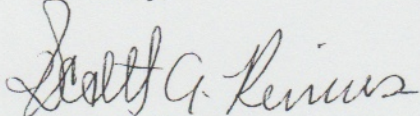
One of Bill's most successful projects for Leader Cross was the development of the House Republican Caucus' Excellence in Illinois Jobs legislative package. In developing this important package, Bill collaborated with economic development experts and House Republican members to compile an expansive package of business assistance and local government planning programs to give the State and local governments tools to encourage business and job growth. House Republican leadership was impressed with Bill's knowledge and understanding of economic development issues, vital ingredients to the package that was so well received.

Bill has an indefatigable work ethic. His comprehension of very complex issues is admirable, but even more admirable is his ability to focus on the most vital points and explain those few but critical points succinctly. Both his writing and speaking skills are impeccable. Furthermore, he has assisted me in mentoring new staff members become acclimated to the job duties and work environment on the House Republican Staff.

On a personal note, I know that Bill and his wife Julie have strong connections to the southwestern region of Illinois. Bill would bring both the expertise needed to successfully manage and promote Carlyle, but he would also be a true heartfelt advocate for the city.

I am pleased to give Bill Gruen my highest recommendation. I have no doubt that he will be a successful asset to Carlyle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott A. Reimers".

Scott A. Reimers
Director of Research
Office of Republican Leader Tom Cross



STATE OF ILLINOIS
 BRENDA A. RUSSELL
 DIRECTOR

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

401 S. STATE STREET
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605-1289
 850 E. MADISON
 SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62702-1823

November 25, 2003

The Honorable Thomas Cross
 House Republican Leader
 Illinois House of Representatives
 530 West Lockport Street, Suite 204
 Plainfield, IL 60544

*For to Scott
 Scott R. Reimers
 Scott R. Reimers
 Scott R. Reimers*

*GRUEN
 STRAUS
 FYI*

Dear Leader Cross:

On behalf of the employees of IDES and the business community and working men and women, we sincerely thank you for supporting our efforts to reach an Agreed Bill during last week's veto session. We are certain this could not have been accomplished without your support and that of your diligent staff, in particular, Bill Gruen, Scott R. Reimers and Frank Straus, who stayed involved at our negotiating table for hours on end.

Again, thank you for your support and confidence in IDES.

Very truly yours,

Brenda

cc: William Gruen
 Scott R. Reimers
 Frank Straus

10/1

DISTRICT OFFICE:

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309/685-3900
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COMMITTEES:

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SPOKESPERSON
ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY
HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS
PERSONNEL & PENSIONS
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE
RULES

DAVID R. LEITCH
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 73RD DISTRICT

January 29, 2004

Mr. Scott Reimers
Director of Research
221 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Scott:

The purpose of my letter is to call your attention to the outstanding work being performed by Bill Gruen.

Last week, a constituent contacted my office inquiring about the difference between TIF Districts and Enterprise Zones. My staff contacted your office and Mr. Gruen quickly returned our call. He was able to explain the difference and provide resources quickly and accurately.

My constituent was extremely complimentary of the information that was provided to him thanks to Mr. Gruen's assistance.

My office contacted him again last week regarding the federal extension of unemployment benefits. Although this is not a state issue, Bill provided extensive information and website links to give my office a complete understanding of this issue.

I really appreciate Bill Gruen's willingness to work so hard to assist my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Leitch".

David R. Leitch



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 200 E. EVERGREEN, SUITE 130
 MT. PROSPECT, ILLINOIS 60056
 847/255-3100
 FAX: 847/255-3184

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CAROLYN H. KRAUSE
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE - 66TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
 PUBLIC UTILITIES -
 MINORITY SPOKESMAN
 ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
 EDUCATION
 REGULATIONS & REGISTRATION
 HEALTH CARE AVAILABILITY
 & ACCESS

TO: Scott Reimers
 Patrick Evans
 Bill Gruen
 Frank Strauss

 (c: Bill O'Connor, Chief of Staff)

FROM: Rep. Carolyn H. Krause *CHK*

DATE: February 13, 2004

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for the stellar work performed on the issue of "Destination - Illinois Jobs." This is a critical issue that the House Republican Caucus can take the lead in offering solutions to the serious problem of outsourcing jobs overseas and the ensuing loss of Illinois businesses. .

Thanks again, for the diligence, hard-work and organization that each of you provided. Members of the House Republicans are fortunate to have you as dedicated associates of the team.

DISTRICT OFFICE
7 E. FAIRCHILD STREET
DANVILLE, ILLINOIS 61832
(217) 431-1986



SPRINGFIELD OFFICE
314 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
(217) 782-4811

WILLIAM B. BLACK
DEPUTY REPUBLICAN LEADER

December 23, 2004

Mr. Bill Gruen
House Republican Staff
Room 221, State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Bill;

Thank you very much for all your work on the Enterprise Zone changes with Vicki Stewart.

When you think the bill is in final form, I would like to get it filed.

Again, thanks for all your help, I really think this can help us attract investment, particularly in rural Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "W. Black", enclosed in a blue circular scribble.

William B. Black
State Representative
104th District

WBB/jas