

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE Municipal Services Building 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 686-6400 FAX (215) 686-6537 FRANK BRESLIN, CPA Revenue Commissioner Chief Collections Officer

July 7, 2017

The Honorable James F. Kenney Mayor City of Philadelphia 215 City Hall Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mayor Kenney:

I am pleased to transmit herewith a report summarizing the City's experience in 2016 regarding the <u>Life Partner and Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credits Program</u>, as required by Section 19-2604(14)(h) of <u>The Philadelphia Code</u>. Copies of this report are being sent to the President and the Chief Clerk of City Council as required.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner Frank Breslin
Chief Revenue Collections Officer

Enclosure

cc: Council President Darrell Clarke Michael Decker, Chief Clerk of Council Rob Dubow, Finance Director

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



LIFE PARTNER AND TRANSGENDER

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS TAX CREDIT 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by:

The City of Philadelphia, Department of Revenue
July 2017

As required by Section 19-2604(14)(h) of The Philadelphia Code

<u>Life Partner and Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credits</u> 2016 Annual Report

The ordinance creating the Life Partner and Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credits (Bill No. 130224) was passed by City Council on April 25, 2013 and signed by Mayor Michael A. Nutter on May 8, 2013. Two (2) credits are authorized. A business may apply for either credit or for both credits. Eligibility for each credit is determined independently.

For any full year in which a business continuously meets the eligibility criteria set forth in Philadelphia Code § 19-2604(14) and Business Income and Receipts Tax ("BIRT") Regulations Section 509, the business shall be eligible to claim a non-refundable tax credit against its BIRT liability for such tax year. Tax Year 2013 was the first BIRT return for which the credits were available.

<u>Life Partner Health Benefits Tax Credit</u>

In order to be eligible for the Life Partner Health Benefits Tax Credit, the business must make health insurance coverage available for the Life Partners of its employees and children of such Life Partners, on the same basis and to the same extent as such business makes health insurance coverage available for spouses of employees, and children of such spouses. During the three tax years immediately prior to the tax year for which the business first claims a credit, the business cannot

have made health insurance coverage available for the Life Partners of its employees, and children of such Life Partners, on the same basis and to the same extent as such business made health insurance coverage available for spouses of employees, and children of such spouses. The Life Partner Health Benefits Tax Credit is the lesser of \$4,000 or 25% of the amount expended by the business during the tax year to purchase health benefits for the Life Partners of its employees and the children of such Life Partners. No business may claim the tax credit in more than two (2) years and the years must be consecutive. No business will receive a tax credit if the business is not in full compliance with all applicable Philadelphia tax ordinances and regulations. Unused tax credits may not be carried forward. A business must repay any Life Partner Health Benefits Tax Credits claimed for a tax year if, at any time within three years from the end of such tax year, the business ceases to make health benefits available for the Life Partners of its employees, and children of such Life Partners, on the same basis and to the same extent as the business makes such benefits available for spouses of employees, and children of such spouses.

Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credit

In order to be eligible for the Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credit, the business must make health insurance coverage available for transgender care on the same basis and to the same extent as the business makes health insurance coverage available for other medically-necessary treatment. The term "transgender care" means medically necessary treatment for gender dysphoria and gender identity disorder, including office visits, laboratory tests, prescription drugs, hormone treatments, counseling, and transitional surgeries necessary for the treatment of either. During the three tax years immediately prior to the tax year for which the business first claims a credit, the business cannot have made health insurance coverage available for transgender care on the same basis and to the same extent as such business made health insurance coverage available for other medically necessary treatments. The Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credit is the lesser of \$4,000 or 25% of the amount expended by the business during the tax year to include transgender care coverage in the health insurance coverage provided to employees. No business may claim the tax credit in more than two (2) years and the years must be consecutive. No business will receive a tax credit if the business is not in full compliance with all applicable Philadelphia tax ordinances and regulations. Unused tax credits may not be carried forward. A business must repay

any Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credits claimed for a tax year if, at any time within three years from the end of such tax year, the business ceases to make transgender care benefits available on the same basis and to the same extent as the business makes health insurance coverage available for other medical needs.

2016 Activity

There were no applicants in calendar year 2016 for either the Life Partner Health Benefits Tax Credit or the Transgender Care Health Benefits Tax Credit. Since the inception of this program, there have been no applicants for either of these credits.