



FILLMORE DISTRICT
COUNCIL MEMBER



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Joelle Schatz
Special Projects Coordinator
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, District of Columbia 20036

Dear Ms. Schatz:

I am writing to support Preservation Buffalo Niagara's nomination of the Statler Building to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *11 Most Endangered Historic Places*.

This former Hotel Statler is of major historic and cultural significance to our city and the nation. The building is also of tremendous architectural importance with a vital location on Buffalo's priceless Niagara Square. The Statler was the flagship hotel of the renowned Statler hotel chain started in Buffalo by Ellsworth Milton Statler, who has been called America's greatest hotelier.

Today, the Statler is at a crossroads--deteriorating while it languishes in bankruptcy proceedings. A court selected purchaser proved unable to close on the property and the bankruptcy trustee has moved to begin a mothballing process that will leave the building unheated.

I applaud the efforts of Preservation Buffalo Niagara and others to garner community support to save the Statler and I am confident that the National Trust's recognition of the plight of this important landmark will generate national attention and resources that will be vital in this effort.

I thank you for your consideration of this nationally significant historic landmark. If you have any questions, please contact my staff or I at (716) 851-4138.

Sincerely,

David A. Franczyk
Common Council President
Fillmore District Council Member