

□ 213 MAHONEY STATE OFFICE BUILDING
65 COURT STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202
(716) 854-8705
FAX: (716) 854-3051

□ ROOM 902 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-3371
FAX: (518) 426-6969

□ 1902 MAIN STREET
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14305
(716) 284-5789
FAX: (716) 284-5820



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ANTOINE M. THOMPSON
SENATOR, 60TH DISTRICT
THOMPSON.NYSENATE.GOV
ATHOMPSON@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
COMMITTEES
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS
FINANCE
HEALTH
INSURANCE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TOURISM, RECREATION
& SPORTS DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY &
MILITARY AFFAIRS

January 4, 2009

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

Re: Request to Nominate Buffalo, NY's Statler Building to *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*

Dear Ms. Schatz:

On behalf of the residents of the 60th Senatorial District, 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 major 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 during harsh winter conditions. Buffalo's national reputation as an architectural treasure chest continues to grow and I firmly believe that the Statler should be considered a (current) diamond in rough shape.

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 needed vital resources for this effort.

Thank you for your consideration of this nationally significant historic landmark.

Sincerely,

Antoine M. Thompson
New York State Senator, 60th District
AT/mjb