In the Friday edition of the Detroit Free Press there appeared an article written by Don Lenshausen which indicated the Detroit proposed Affirmative Action plan, patterned after Affirmative Action plans developed by the city planning commission, was deemed by the Federal Civil Service Commission as being an impossible contradiction to its policies. Study of the racial composition patterns in many city departments offered clear evidence of primafacie indices of discrimination in hiring. The Urban League is aware that there are interests within and without city government of the negative reasons opposing the implementation of Affirmative Action programs. National media coverage has been given to the expressed

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The Honorable Roman S. Gribbs
Mayor
City of Detroit
City-County building
Woodward Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Mr. Gribbs:

The Detroit Urban League has gone on record as publicly supporting your administration's efforts to increase minority hiring in the Police Department. In contrast to previous hiring patterns within the Police Department, significant progress in hiring has been made. Similarly, the Board of the Urban League was encouraged by the announcement of your administration to increase minority representation in the City Fire Department, and the Board was also encouraged that a deadline was established of November 30, 1972 for the submission of all departments' Affirmative Action plans. The Urban League believes that it is critical and vital to the interest of Detroit that the city develop an Affirmative Action program which is comprehensive, progressive and enforceable. The hiring goal that was established for the Fire Department is a commendable step in the right direction.

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primaffacie indices of discrimination in hiring. The Urban League is aware that there are
interests within and without city government of the negative reasons opposing the implementation
of Affirmative Action programs. National media coverage has been given to the expressed
opposition of the American Jewish Committee to Affirmative Action and the subsequent reply

by President Nixon and Senator George McGovern. The League believes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Detroit that efforts to sabotage or undermind the efficacy of Detroit Affirmative Action programs should not be allowed to succeed.

Therefore, as an organization representative of jobs, educational and religious leadership of this community we recommend that your administration resist appeals from governmental and/or private interests which are intended to curtail the impact of meaningful hiring goals. The League acknowledges accomplishments of your administration in the area of minority hiring and hopes that even higher standards of accomplishment will be achieved in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Francis A. Kornegay Executive Director

Chairman of the Board