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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Rep. Josh Shapiro
Date: December 8, 2010
Subject: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation to Prohibit the Use of Hand-Held Cell Phones While Driving

In the near future, I will re-introduce legislation that will prohibit using a hand-held cell phone while operating a motor vehicle. The use of cell phones equipped with hands-free devices would still be permitted.

Under my legislation, the use of hand-held cell phones to talk or text while driving would be prohibited on all public roads in Pennsylvania. Exceptions are provided for law enforcement officers, operators of emergency vehicles when on duty and there is leeway provided for drivers to use a hand-held cell phone when they fear for their safety, are reporting a traffic accident, or are making a 911 emergency call. A violation would be a summary offense and, upon conviction, a person would be required to pay a \$50 fine. There would be no points assessed to a driver who violates this law.

This legislation is nearly identical to legislation I introduced last session and passed the House as part of HB 2070 by a vote of 189-6.

The following House members co-sponsored that bill last session: Adolph, Boback, Bradford, Brennan, Briggs, Caltagirone, Carroll, Clymer, Cohen, Conklin, D. Costa, Creighton, Curry, Daley, Deasy, Deluca, DePasquale, DeWeese, DiGirolamo, Fabrizio, Frankel, Freeman, Galloway, Harhai, Harkins, Hennessey, Hornaman, Killion, Kortz, Kula, Mahoney, Mann, Miccarelli, Millard, Milne, Mundy, Murphy, Mustio, Murt, O'Neill, Pashinski, Petrarca, Petri, Preston, Quinn, Readshaw, Reed, Reichley, Sabatina, Samuelson, Santarsiero, Schroder, K. Smith, M. Smith, Staback, Swanger, Thomas, Vereb, Wagner and Watson

If you wish to join me in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please contact Sean Brennan in my office at 783-7619 or sbrennan@pahouse.net.