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TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr.

DATE: November 22, 2010

RE: Co-sponsorship – Driver’s Education – Certification Exemption (#47)



Senate of Pennsylvania

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I will be re-introducing legislation, SB1441, to amend the Public School Code allowing school districts the option to contract with private driver training schools/ instructors to teach the classroom theory instruction of driver's education in the public school classroom setting, if the school district wants to offer driver's education and does not have a certified driver's education teacher available.

Current law allows school districts to contract with private driving training instructors to teach behind-the-wheel instruction only. Currently, private driver training instructors are prohibited from teaching the classroom theory instruction of driver education in the public school classroom setting if they are not a "certified teacher". The language I am proposing would allow these private instructors to teach the theory of driving instruction and would exempt these instructors from meeting the certificate requirements in the Public School Code. This legislation would only permit these individuals to teach driver's education and would in no way expand their instruction capabilities beyond driver's education.

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of teens and driver's education is one way to lessen the chance of getting into a crash by introducing new teen drivers to the risks and hazards they face behind the wheel.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Cecilia Boyer at cboyer@pasen.gov or call 787-1398.