

MEMO



DEC 14 2010

Senate of Pennsylvania

December 14, 2010

TO: ALL SENATORS
FROM: Stewart J. Greenleaf *Stewart*
SUBJECT: Cosponsorship -- **Recognition of Bike Medics**

I am reintroducing **Senate Bill 738**, amending the Vehicle Code, Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, to officially recognize Bike Medics and permit them to operate their bicycles in the same manner as a police officer on a bicycle.

In recent years, Bike Medics have become a valuable addition to community emergency medical service teams in many communities across the Commonwealth. Bike Medics are able to rapidly respond to medical emergencies at large public events, such as parades, festivals, sporting events and other outdoor community events. The mobility of the Bike Medic allows them to move easily through crowded areas to provide assistance to the sick or injured. Bike Medics are able to provide immediate medical assistance prior to emergency medical service vehicles arriving at the scene.

The legislation requires a Bike Medic to be a member of an emergency medical service provider that is recognized by the Department of Health and attain minimum certification of a First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician. Also, Bike Medics will be required to complete a basic EMS cycling program administered by a nationally recognized cycling organization.

The amendment will permit Bike Medics to operate their bicycles with the same rights and responsibilities as drivers of emergency vehicles under section 3105 of the Vehicle Code. Also, Bike Medics must wear a distinctive department uniform and make use of visual and audible devices while they are responding to a medical emergency.

I believe that this legislation will help emergency medical service teams provide more efficient health care to the public.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Pat Snively of my office by e-mailing her at psnively@pasen.gov.