

**DICK L. HESS, MEMBER**

ROOM 213, RYAN OFFICE BUILDING  
PO BOX 202078  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2078  
PHONE: (717) 787-7076  
FAX: (717) 705-1855

133 SOUTH RICHARD STREET  
BEDFORD, PENNSYLVANIA 15522  
PHONE: (814) 623-9097  
FAX: (814) 623-6633

314 LINCOLN WAY EAST  
SUITE A  
MCCONNELLSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17233  
PHONE: (717) 485-4430  
FAX: (717) 485-3979



*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

COMMERCE,  
REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
RULES  
POLICY

CAUCUSES

FIREMEN'S  
SPORTSMEN'S  
COAL  
TIMBER  
ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS  
MOTORSPORTS

APPOINTMENT

PENNVEST - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 8, 2010

**TO:** All House Members  
**FROM:** Representative Dick L. Hess *D.L.H.*  
**SUBJECT:** Introduction of Legislation – Former HB 670  
Witness Compensation

---

I am reintroducing legislation which will increase the daily compensation rate for witnesses subpoenaed to testify before any government unit (except the minor judiciary). Currently, the Judicial Code provides that every witness shall be paid \$5 per day during the necessary period of attendance.

My legislation will amend the Judicial Code to increase the witness compensation rate from \$5 per day to \$40 per day. Given the state of the economy, coupled with the fact that witnesses often miss a day or more of work while appearing in court, and the fact that the witness compensation rate has not been adjusted since 1978, it is absolutely essential that the rate be increased to comport with current standards. The proposed legislation will reduce the financial burden imposed upon witnesses who are compelled through the issuance of a subpoena to travel to various locations throughout the state to provide testimony before our government units.

In addition, the legislation will make a technical amendment to the witness compensation statute by deleting a reference to the First Class City Permanent Registration Act, which has been repealed.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this legislation by contacting my office at 787-7076 or email Barb Ramsey at [bramsey@pahousegop.com](mailto:bramsey@pahousegop.com).

Previous Cosponsors: HESS , PHILLIPS , FLECK , GEIST , BARRAR , BELFANTI , BEYER , BROWN , CLYMER , CREIGHTON , FAIRCHILD , HELM , MARSHALL , MARSICO , MELIO , MICOZZIE , MILLER , MURT , O'NEILL , PAYNE , PRESTON , READSHAW , SABATINA , SIPTROTH , SOLOBAY , STABACK and THOMAS