

State Senator
Don White
41st Senatorial District

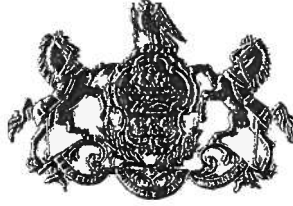
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Senate of Pennsylvania

December 17, 2010

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TO: All Senators

FR: Senator Don White *DCW*

RE: Co-sponsorship: Home Improvement Consumer Protection—Amish insurance

I will reintroduce legislation (Senate Bill 1425 from last session) which would assist the Amish community with contracting licensing requirements under the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act of 2008.

Currently, procedures for registration as a contractor under the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act requires certain forms of identification and proof of liability insurance coverage for personal injury and property damage caused by the work of a home improvement contractor.

Because the Amish do not have driver's licenses or state identification cards required for registration under the Act, this bill would allow another form of identification permitted by the Bureau of Consumer Protection to be accepted. Additionally, the bill would allow the bureau to accept proof of self-insurance from individuals for the purpose of complying with the insurance requirements under the statute. This change would allow the Amish, who have religious objections to insurance, to insure with the church (which is acceptable to the community) and still meet the requirements of the Commonwealth.

As one who represents a District where the Amish community has proven themselves to be good stewards, I believe this bill makes appropriate accommodations that satisfy Amish beliefs and still protect the consumer.

If you would like to cosponsor this bill, please contact Anne Achenbach at aachenbach@pasen.gov or call 7-8724.

DCW/ama