

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16, 2010

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: Rep. Tim Briggs

SUBJECT: CO-SPONSORSHIP - TITLE IX REPORTING

In the near future, I will be re-introducing legislation which will give schools, parents, and students a significant tool to help them achieve athletic equity for Pennsylvania's female secondary school athletes. Last session's bill was HB 2061 and was reported out of the Education Committee by a vote of 19-4.

Title IX is the landmark federal legislation enacted 38 years ago that requires all schools receiving public funding to provide equitable athletic opportunities to female students. While Title IX has led to increases in athletic opportunities for girls, many schools continue to shortchange their female students in sports opportunities, facilities, equipment and other aspects of the sports program.

I will be introducing companion legislation to last session's SB890, "The Pennsylvania Equity in Interscholastic Athletics Disclosure Act." SB 890 was prime-sponsored by Senator Mary Jo White, passed the Senate by a vote of 48-0, and will be reintroduced this session. This bill will require Pennsylvania secondary schools to publicly disclose information about student athletic participation by gender, race, and ethnicity, and information about athletic facilities, equipment, coaching, and athletic expenditures by gender. Schools already collect this data, and this bill would simply require them to disclose it for the purpose of upholding the intent of Title IX. Since 1994, federal law has required colleges and universities to publicly disclose athletic information by gender, and this information has been instrumental in expanding intercollegiate athletic opportunities for women.

I'm proud to be working with Senator White in a bi-partisan effort to ensure that our daughters will be afforded the same opportunities that our sons will be.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Anne Foreman at 717-705-7011 or aforeman@pahouse.net.