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**House of Representatives**  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Matt Smith

DATE: January 3, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Legislation – Re-introduction of HB 2552 of 2009 – Reimbursement for Diabetic Pain Treatments

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In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation, HB 2552 of 2009 that will amend the Insurance Company Law of 1921 to include reimbursement for treatment of pain associated with diabetes. This act was amended in 1998 to provide for reimbursement for monitors, syringes, insulin, insulin infusion devices, and other equipment. Outpatient training on managing this condition as well as doctor visits were also covered under this act. However, treatment specific to pain management was not included.

People with diabetes often suffer with pain as a result of diabetic neuropathy. Treatments for the pain are focused on the nervous system in order to alleviate the patient's discomfort. Research has resulted in the discovery of a variety of medications that may successfully treat the pain associated with diabetes. Further, a recently released study supports the concept of developing individual treatment strategies for those suffering with Type 2 diabetes. This is as a result of the research that found that there are often a variety of factors that lead to the onset of Type 2 diabetes and may vary from one individual to another.

My proposed legislation will specify that reimbursement is to be provided for the treatment of pain associated with diabetes.

**Previous co-sponsors for former HB 2552 included:** PYLE, BAKER, BISHOP, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DONATUCCI, DRUCKER, FREEMAN, GERGELY, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HOUGHTON, JOSEPHS, KULA, MAHONEY, MATZIE, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MILNE, M. O'BRIEN, RAPP, ROEBUCK, SEIP, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, SWANGER, THOMAS, VULAKOVICH, WHEATLEY, WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD, P. COSTA, DeLUCA, FRANKEL, READSHAW, SHAPIRO, VEREB and BRADFORD.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Jamie Fetter at (717) 783-1850 or email [jfetter@pahouse.net](mailto:jfetter@pahouse.net).