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*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Kerry A. Benninghoff  
171<sup>st</sup> Legislation District

SUBJECT: Right to Dry Clothes by Solar Energy Act (former HB 2158)

DATE: December 28, 2010

In the near future I plan to re-introduce the Right to Dry Clothes by Solar Energy Act (former HB 2158). This legislation would ensure the ability of all Pennsylvanian's who wish to use the sun's power to dry clothes to be able to do so without being inhibited by local regulation.

This legislation would prohibit a municipality, homeowners association, or condominium owners association from imposing regulations that would restrict the use of clothes lines, drying racks, or other similar devices. These organizations would, however, be permitted to regulate these devices where there is a need to protect access to adjacent buildings, to permit proper emergency evacuation, and to protect the aesthetic values of the building or surrounding dwelling units.

Several states have enacted similar laws. They are designed to encourage energy conservation, and to enhance energy savings. An average household electric dryer accounts for approximately 10 percent of the electric use in a typical home. Encouraging the use of this type of clothes drying can be one method to help conserve energy by taking advantage of an abundant natural resource.

If you are interested in joining me as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please contact Amy Noel at 783-1918 or via email at [Anoel@pahousegop.com](mailto:Anoel@pahousegop.com).

Cosponsors of former HB 2158: CLYMER , CREIGHTON , CUTLER , FLECK , GIBBONS , GROVE, HORNAMAN , KORTZ , KOTIK , McILVAINE SMITH , MILLER , MURT , MYERS , ROAE , SCAVELLO , SWANGER , WATERS and YOUNGBLOOD