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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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Date: December 27, 2010

To: All House Members

From: Representative RoseMarie Swanger

Subject: Co-sponsor – Re-introduction of HB 1827

INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE

STATE BLIND PENSION

I plan to re-introduce HB 1827 to increase the amount of the State Blind Pension for eligible individuals.

The State Blind Pension is a state-funded program which provides payment to eligible blind individuals residing in Pennsylvania. The pension provides payment directly to eligible individuals, or on behalf of eligible individuals, for certain medical or other health care, including nursing home care. The last increase to the amount of the pension was made in 1980 and the current allowance is certainly outdated.

This legislation revises the income eligibility requirement to be determined by the annual Federal Poverty Guidelines rather than the current figure of \$4,260 annual income. In addition, this legislation increases the monthly blind pension paid to individuals from \$100 to \$250.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Lily Horst, 787-2686, or via e-mail, lhorst@pahousegop.com.

Previous Co-sponsors of HB 1827: SWANGER, BAKER, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, BRENNAN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DAY, DENLINGER, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HESS, HORNAMAN, JOSEPHS, KNOWLES, KORTZ, MAJOR, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILNE, MOUL, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PHILLIPS, QUINN, READSHAW, SANTONI, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SONNEY, STERN, VULAKOVICH, YOUNGBLOOD, BEYER, PETRARCA and FREEMAN