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MEMORANDUM

Date: January 3, 2011

To: All House Members

From: Representative Tony DeLuca

Subject: Co-sponsorship of Legislation: Cancer Clinical Trial Act

In the near future, I will be reintroducing HB 85- legislation that was unanimously approved by the full House in the previous session. The bill will require insurance companies to provide coverage for direct treatment patient costs received during a cancer clinical trial.

Insurance companies generally pay for routine care for cancer patients. However, if a patient enters into a clinical trial – this routine care payment may be denied. According to one survey conducted by the American Cancer Society, 60 percent of patients reported concerns over having their insurance coverage denied, as a major reason for not signing up to take part in a clinical trial.

It is time we do something about this and help cancer patients who agree to go through cancer clinical trials. Clinical trials are vital to providing advanced treatments and saving the lives of Pennsylvanians, and will hopefully produce the cure for cancer that we so vitally need.

If you wish to be added as a co-sponsor to this legislation, please contact Stacia R. Longenecker at <u>slongene@pahouse.net</u> or 787-4437.

JAN _ 4 2011