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House of Representatives commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

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MEMORANDUM

Date:

January 3, 2011

To:

All House Members

From:

Representative Tony DeLuca

Subject:

Co-sponsorship of Legislation: Amending the Unfair Trade Practices and

Consumer Protection Law

I will be reintroducing House Bill 2044 from last session. This important legislation which amends the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, regarding Private Actions, was unanimously approved by the full House in the 2009-2010 session.

It was brought to my attention by Mary Bach, a long time consumer advocate in Allegheny County, that section 9.2 of this Act is outdated and needs to be amended to reflect today's needs. Currently a person may sue under this statute for actual damages or \$100, whichever is greater. This dollar amount has remained constant since this was enacted in 1968. Certainly \$100 does not carry the same weight as it did forty years ago.

My bill will change this amount from \$100 to \$500, as a matter of fairness for consumers who take action under this law, and prevail in court.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this bill by contacting Linda Dolfi at ldolfi@pahouse.net or calling her at 783-1011.

JAN 4 2011