Respond to:

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OF REPRESENTAT

COMMITTEES

INSURANCE

GAMING OVERSIGHT - CHAIRMAN

House of Representatibes

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

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emorandum

Date:

January 3, 2011

To:

All House Members

From:

Curt Schroder, Member

155th Legislative District

RE:

Legislation - Make Casinos NON SMOKING

When the Clean Indoor Air Act was passed in 2008, it was clear that we were working to make a safer, smoke free environment for the citizens of the Commonwealth. Unfortunately, there was one area where we failed to protect our citizens ... our newly opened casinos. .

The Act has done little for the patrons and employees of these establishments. Under the Act, initially the gaming floor was 25% smoking and 75% non-smoking, but after 90 days, if the casino could show a loss of profit, the floor could go to 50-50. All of the casinos have gone to 50% smoking and 50% non-smoking.

Since then, there have been various complaints by patrons and employees as well as little to no regulation of the smoking and non-smoking areas. The Act doesn't clearly designate the PA Gaming Control Board or the Department of Health to enact regulations for smoking in our casinos. Because of this, there has been no enforcement of the Act.

My legislation will end any discrepancies in interpretation of the law by making all casinos NON-SMOKING.

Twenty-seven states plus Washington DC and Puerto Rico have enacted 100% smokefree gaming laws. In addition, a large number of communities and states are slated to consider legislation for 100% smokefree casinos in the coming years. Some Indian Nations are also considering smokefree gaming laws on Tribal Lands.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this legislation. If you wish to do so, please contact Carolyn May at 783-2520 or via e-mail at cmay@pahousegop.com. Thank you.