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MEMORANDUM

To:

All House Members

From:

Representative Seth Grove

196th Legislative District

Date:

January 5, 2011

Subject:

Co-sponsorship - Emergency State Employee Salary Fund (Former HB 1915)

In the near future I plan to reintroduce House Bill 1915 from the 2009-2010 session. State employees are innocent victims in protracted budget impasses as acknowledged and lamented by legislators from both sides of the aisle. My proposals will give the State Treasury the authority to continue to issue paychecks to state employees during budget impasses.

This bill will amend the Administrative Code to create an Emergency State Employee Salary Fund. During a budget impasse, the Treasurer will be given the authority to transfer in appropriated, unrestricted general fund moneys to the Emergency State Employee Salary Fund. The proposal will, in turn, give the Secretary of Administration the authority to draw a warrant on the Treasurer on behalf of the various state agencies, so these agencies can continue to make payments of employees' biweekly salaries.

I do not believe state employees should have to consider taking out emergency loans or going to a food bank as a result of a budget impasse. My proposals will serve to avoid these scenarios in the future by erasing any doubt the Commonwealth has the authority to continue paying state employees for their service.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Lisa Burkholder at lburkhol@pahousegop.com or 717-783-2655. Thank you for your consideration.

Previous Cosponsors:

Baker, Bear, Boback, Brooks, Christiana, D. Costa, Cutler, Everett, Fairchild, Farry, Gabler, Gibbons, Harris, Hickernell, Houghton, Kauffman, M. Keller, Major, Marsico, Metzgar, Moul, Mustio, Rapp, Roae, Siptroth, S. H. Smith, Sonney, Stevenson, Swanger, Tallman, True, Turzai, Vereb, Vulakovich, Watson, Denlinger, Goodman and Fleck