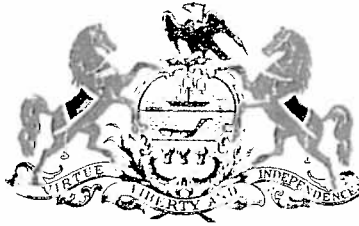


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Seth Grove
196th Legislative District
Date: January 5, 2011
Subject: Co-sponsorship – Professional Construction Management Services for Schools
(Former HB 1891)

In the near future, I will reintroduce House Bill 1891 that was introduced by Rep. John E. Pallone during the 2009-2010 session. The construction or expansion of school buildings is a complex and costly project for any school district and its taxpayers. The level of detail involved in the design, planning and actual construction itself is daunting and requires an individual with the expertise to oversee all phases of the project to ensure that tax dollars are spent properly. While districts have employees who are responsible for the routine maintenance of their facilities, they generally do not have people with the background or time to supervise projects of this magnitude. Without this type of monitoring, the potential for unnecessary delays, change orders and cost overruns is significant.

I intend to introduce legislation that will permit school districts to be reimbursed for the costs associated with hiring an individual or firm to provide professional construction management services. These services will include those rendered in the planning, preconstruction and construction phases; value engineering; reviewing plans and specifications; making recommendations with regard to certain aspects of procurement, construction and projected costs; analysis of bids; coordinating the architects, engineers and contractors; developing a progress schedule for each phase; and providing status reports to the district. The cost of these services will be money well spent as the construction manager will be able to prevent incurring additional, unnecessary expenditures associated with these projects.

Given the limited resources of our school districts, it is critical that they get the most value for their tax dollars. While there is a cost associated with the hiring of a construction manager/clerk of the works, the cost should be more than offset by the savings generated by the hire. Having a professional well-versed in all the various phases of school construction who can oversee the progress of a project and make appropriate recommendations as needed, would be a wise expenditure in districts in need of such services.

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:

Pallone, Brennan, Everett, Fleck, Haluska, Harhai, Harkins, Hornaman, Kotik, Longietti, Payton, Scavello and Watson