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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

18TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE,
CHAIRMAN

COSPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Gene DiGirolamo

SUBJECT: Cosponsorship of Legislation.
CERT Members Workers Compensation Benefits

Please find attached a copy of legislation that I will be reintroducing from last session (HB664) which amends the Workers Compensation Act to ensure that Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members are eligible for workers compensation benefits. My legislation would amend Section 601(a) of the act to provide that team members certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency receive the workers' compensation benefits if they are injured while serving their community. The CERT program originated out of the 9/11 tragedy and is a federal program that trains community members to assist first responders in the event of a disaster. I believe it is good public policy to also provide benefits to these volunteers.

It is important to note that legislation is not a mandate, and is written in a manner that gives municipalities the *option* of providing such coverage. This legislation was *unanimously* approved by the House last session, although it was never considered by the Senate.

Please contact Pamela Huss in my office at phuss@pahousegop.com or 783-7319 if you wish to cosponsor this legislation.

Thank you!