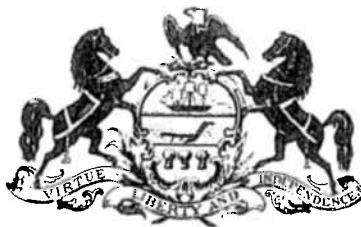


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January 5, 2011

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Jim Christiana
RE: Eliminating the PA Turnpike Commission Legislation

I plan to soon introduce House Bill 76, previously introduced as House Bill 2134 by Rep. Mike Vereb, which would shift all of the Turnpike's operations, maintenance, construction and reconstruction powers and duties to PennDOT and the issuance and payment of bonds to the State Treasurer's office.

House Bill 76 would ELIMINATE the PA Turnpike Commission and create the Bureau of Toll Administration within PennDOT. The legislation provides for minimum education and experience qualifications for a newly proposed Deputy Secretary for Toll Administration. The bill will amend the Administrative Code of 1929.

PennDOT shall receive all tolls and other money payable to the Commission. The proposed legislation authorizes the Bureau to maintain and operate the PA Turnpike. PennDOT shall honor any collective bargaining agreement in existence between the commission and any employee organization.

The Commonwealth shall assume the debt of the outstanding bonds of the Turnpike Commission and shall draw upon the tolls received by PennDOT for repayment of the debt. PennDOT should oversee all roadways in PA. In light of the upcoming fiscal crisis, we need to eliminate inefficiencies and excess. The top-heavy Turnpike Commission employs one executive manager for every 60 miles of roadway vs one executive manager for every 5,800 miles of roadway with PennDOT.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Sandra Pancoe in my office at 260-6144 or at sapancoe@pahousegop.com.