

MARK B. COHEN, MEMBER



PO BOX 202202
HARRISBURG PA 17120-2202
PHONE: (717) 787-4117

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

6001 NORTH 5TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19120
PHONE: (215) 924-0895

7601 CASTOR AVENUE, ROOM 200
GLENDALE OFFICE CENTER
PHILADELPHIA PA 19152
PHONE: (215) 342-2167

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Mark B. Cohen, Chair
Democratic Human Services Committee

DATE: January 10, 2011

RE: Co-sponsorship of Legislations on Telemedicine

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark B. Cohen".

Your co-sponsorship is requested of two bills regarding telemedicine. Telemedicine is rapidly becoming a successful means to more efficiently deliver greater amounts of health care services at lower costs. These bills provide for steps that will allow telemedicine to improve the lives of more people less expensively.

The first bill will require health insurers to cover telemedicine when it should result in lower health care costs. This will benefit patients, providers, and insurers. This bill last session was HB 99. The cosponsors then were KIRKLAND , BELFANTI , JOSEPHS , BEYER , CAUSER , FABRIZIO , HENNESSEY , KORTZ , McGEEHAN , PASHINSKI , SIPTROTH , K. SMITH , GEIST , THOMAS and HORNAMAN.

The second bill would require medical assistance to reimburse for telemedicine services provided to medical assistance patients at Medicaid rates. This bill last session was HB 1285. The cosponsors then were DeLUCA , REICHLLEY , WATSON , MYERS , WHEATLEY , BELFANTI , CALTAGIRONE , DALEY , FREEMAN , GEORGE , JOSEPHS , McGEEHAN , YOUNGBLOOD , WHITE , WAGNER , SIPTROTH , READSHAW , LONGIETTI , MENSCH , MURT , M. O'BRIEN , KORTZ , HORNAMAN , HENNESSEY , HARKINS , HALUSKA , GOODMAN, GIBBONS , CAUSER and CONKLIN.

Please contact Linda Huntington in my office to co-sponsor one or both of these bills at either lhunting@pahouse.net or 787-3085.