

39TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
KIM WARD

SENATE BOX 203039
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3039
(717) 787-6063
FAX: (717) 772-0580

766 E. PITTSBURGH STREET
SUITE 101
GREENSBURG, PA 15601
(BEHIND DAVIS SHOPPING CENTER)
(724) 600-7002
FAX: (724) 600-7008

901 JEFFERSON STREET
LATROBE, PA 15650
(724) 537-7650
FAX: (724) 537-7696

JAN 11 2011



Senate of Pennsylvania

COMMITTEES

AGING & YOUTH, CHAIR
BANKING & INSURANCE, VICE CHAIR
CONSUMER PROTECTION & PROFESSIONAL
LICENSURE
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE
VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS

SENATE MAJORITY POLICY COMMITTEE

EMAIL: kward@pasen.gov
WEBSITE: www.senatorward.com

TOLL FREE: (877) 787-0039

January 11, 2011

TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Kim Ward
SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation – Verification of employees – **Memo #2**

In the near future I will be re-introducing legislation to amend Title 62 (Procurement) Chapter 39, Contracts for Public Works, to require public works employers to verify employees' social security numbers as a precondition of being awarded a contract for a public work project and prior to the execution of the contract.

Employers must provide a verification statement to the Commonwealth agency to which the contract applies as a precondition and prior to the execution of the public works contract. In addition, subcontractors would also be required to provide the verification statement to the contractor prior to the commencement of any work by the subcontractor on the public works project.

Verification statements by employers are conducted through E-Verify. (E-Verify is a partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services oversees the program.) E-Verify, protects jobs for authorized U.S. workers, helps U.S. employers maintain a legal workforce and is a free and simple to use Web-based system that electronically verifies the employment eligibility of newly hired employees. Employers can electronically compare employee information taken from the Form I-9 (the paper-based employment eligibility verification form used for all new hires) against more SSA's database and the records in DHS' immigration databases and results are returned within seconds. Contractors cannot discriminate against an employee after conducting the verification. The Secretary of Labor and Industry shall enforce this new subchapter.

Co-sponsors from last session's Senate Bill 1172, include: Senators Scarnati, Waugh, Orié and Rafferty.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Tiffany Price in my office at 717-787-6063 or by email at tprice@pasen.gov.

KLW/vjw