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*Senate of Pennsylvania*

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January 11, 2011

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Kim Ward

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation – “Jennifer’s Law” – **Memo # 8**

In the near future I will be re-introducing legislation called “Jennifer’s Law” to amend Title 18, the Crimes Code, to establish a new offense that requires individuals who witness the commission of a violent offense to notify law enforcement officials as soon as reasonably possible.

It is named “Jennifer’s Law” in memory of Jennifer Daugherty, a young woman with intellectual disabilities, who was murdered earlier this year in Greensburg. Three men and three women have been charged in connection with the torture and stabbing death of Jennifer. Westmoreland County District Attorney, John Peck, believes this statute would have enabled him to file additional charges in this case.

The legislation would require the reporting of the crime to law enforcement officials immediately. Failure to report the crime is a misdemeanor of the third degree. The individual would not be required to immediately report if it would place the person in immediate physical harm.

Co-sponsors from last session’s Senate Bill 1498, include: Senators D. White, Pippy, Waugh, Browne, Fontana and Washington.

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](mailto:tprice@pasen.gov).

KLW/vjw