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Senate of Pennsylvania

January 10, 2011

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To: All Senators

From: Senator Robert M. Tomlinson

Subject: Co-Sponsorship Memo #23 – Flu Vaccines

Please join me in cosponsoring legislation that would require the Department of Health to take important steps to increase public awareness of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice's (ACIP) influenza recommendations for vaccines in children.

The Department of Health would be required to review and improve current immunization activities and education efforts, work with appropriate state agencies and licensed child care facilities to ensure that information on the benefits of yearly immunization is distributed annually. The department would be required to work with health care professionals and public health organizations to develop plans for expanding outreach, and explore the use of schools and alternative venues to administer influenza vaccines to children in a timely manner.

Additionally, the legislation would allow the Department of Health to offer school-based influenza vaccine programs. To the degree that products are available through federal vaccine programs and state funded programs, the Department shall offer a variety of delivery methods, including traditional shots and needle-free delivery methods.

The information below indicates the prior session's bill number and cosponsors.

SB 1171 Senators TOMLINSON , ALLOWAY, FONTANA , TARTAGLIONE , FARNESE, BOSCOLA , WARD, MUSTO , WASHINGTON , RAFFERTY , FERLO , GREENLEAF and MENSCH.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Mary Walmer at 787-5072 or mwalmer@pasen.gov.

RMT/bzm