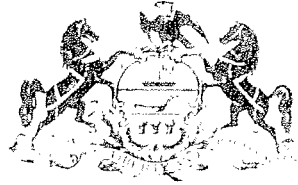


STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MATTHEW E. BAKER

PO BOX 202068
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2068
PHONE: (717) 772-5371
FAX: (717) 705-1835

DISTRICT OFFICES:
74 MAIN STREET
WELLSBORO, PA 16901
PHONE: (570) 724-1390
FAX: (570) 724-2168

430 CANTON STREET, SUITE 6
TROY, PA 16947
PHONE: (570) 297-3045
FAX: (570) 297-5551



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE

POLICY COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES
FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LOCAL TAX REFORM
RURAL HEALTH CARE
SPORTSMEN
TIMBER

APPOINTMENTS
STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT
COUNCIL ACT - REVIEW COMMITTEE
CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: MATT BAKER, MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
HEALTH COMMITTEE

RE: REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION –(FORMER HB 826)
AMENDING FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT ACT

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2011

I am reintroducing legislation that I have proposed over the past several sessions to expand the benefits under the Family Caregiver Support Program. This legislation passed unanimously in the House during the 2005-06 session as House Bill 566 but died in the Senate Aging and Youth Committee.

Currently, the maximum amount available to a qualified caregiver cannot exceed \$200/month for out-of-pocket expenses incurred for services. In addition, the maximum amount available to a qualified caregiver cannot exceed \$2,000 for expenses incurred for home modifications or assistive devices. My legislation proposes to increase those benefits to \$600/month for services and \$6,000 for home modifications for assistive devices. It should be noted that this amount has not been increased in over twenty years, since the law was enacted back in 1990. This legislation may result in a net cost savings by keeping family members out of Nursing Facilities and allowing them to stay in their own homes or with loved ones.

I believe that we need to do everything we can to provide support for those individuals who are caring for their loved ones. And, I believe that it is essential that we take into consideration the increasing costs associated with home care services and home modification and assistive devices.

If you would like to cosponsor this bill, please notify Gina in my office via email at Gstrine@pahousegop.com.

PREVIOUS COSPONSORS: BAKER, BEYER, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, CREIGHTON, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GROVE, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY, HESS, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER, KORTZ, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MILLER, M. OBRIEN, ONEILL, PETRARCA, PHLLIPS, PICKETT, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROHRER, SCAVELLO, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON