

TOM KILLION, MEMBER
403 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
PO BOX 202168
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2168
PHONE: (717) 772-0855

4641 WEST CHESTER PIKE
NEWTOWN SQUARE, PA 19073
PHONE: (610) 325-1541

EMAIL: TKILLION@PAHOUSEGOP.COM
WEB SITE: WWW.REPKILLION.COM




House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

DEPUTY WHIP
APPROPRIATIONS
INSURANCE
URBAN AFFAIRS

MEMO

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Tom Killion 

DATE: January 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – Flood Hazard Mitigation Act (former HB 128)

Pennsylvania has the distinction of being one of the most flood prone states in the entire nation. We have all been witness to the various flooding events which have occurred in Pennsylvania during previous years. Several areas of Pennsylvania, including southeastern Pennsylvania were especially hard hit during periods of severe weather and subsequent high water.

I am proposing the Flood Hazard Mitigation Act and plan to reintroduce this legislation shortly. Currently there is no statute authorizing the acquisition of property for flood mitigation. This bill would be an attempt to help local governments acquire properties for flood mitigation purposes. Local governments can designate flood plains for land use purposes; however, this bill would take the further step of helping them to facilitate the purchase of properties to create natural flood buffers.

Many properties are in locations that are subject to regular flooding and these properties possess little resale value for their owners who would like to move to a more stable area. In these cases a better approach may be for the municipality to buyout the property owner(s) and maintain the property as a natural flood buffer.

This legislation also will set forth a process for public hearings, provide for revenue options for local governments to acquire the property, and require a local voter referendum if a taxing option is to be used to generate revenue for this program.

If you would like to join me in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Alison Hagler in my office at 772-0855, or via email at ahagler@pahousegop.com.

Previous Co-Sponsors: BELFANTI, BEYER, CALTAGIRONE, CARROLL, FABRIZIO, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARPER, W. KELLER, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, MAJOR, MELIO, MICCARELLI, MICOZZIE, MILLER, MURT, MUSTIO, MYERS, O'NEILL, PETRI, PICKETT, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROSS, SIPTROTH, VULAKOVICH, WANSACZ, WATSON, and YUDICHAK