WILL TALLMAN, MEMBER 193rd Legislative District

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MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 13, 2011

SUBJECT:

Resolution

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Rep. Will Tallman

I am currently preparing to introduce a resolution that will urge Congress to place greater restrictions on the airport security screening measures utilized by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

On January 18, 2011, I will be introducing my resolution to urge Congress to limit the use of advanced imaging technology and pat-downs to specific circumstances.

Here is a recent example of the inability of TSA to properly detect a dangerous situation. Despite these enhanced screening procedures, safety for air travelers does not seem to have been enhanced. The week prior to Christmas, it was reported that an Iranian-American businessman inadvertently smuggled his loaded semi-automatic handgun through TSA security. Thankfully, the individual reported the incident himself, and no one was hurt. Nonetheless, a deadly weapon, which should easily be found by a metal detector or an x-ray machine passed through airport security and was carried aboard a passenger aircraft. In response to the incident, the negligent TSA employees were "disciplined" but not terminated. I find the only thing TSA is good for is to harass and embarrass the citizens of the Commonwealth. The problem is that TSA is in a reactive mode when in actuality they need to be in proactive mode. It was only after finding a man with a hidden bomb in his shoe that TSA began demanding passengers to remove their shoes, etc.

I believe that Benjamin Franklin's wise words are still very relevant today: "They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

If you are interested in cosponsoring this resolution, please contact my office at 3-8875 or email Jodi Addington at jaddingt@pahousegop.com.