

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Eugene DePasquale

DATE: January 20, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Legislation to Expand the Scope of Unpaid Parking Ticket Enforcement

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce a bill that would amend Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to expand the enforcement of unpaid parking tickets to enable all Commonwealth municipalities to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to suspend vehicle registration plates of motorists that accumulate six or more unpaid parking tickets.

Currently, the Philadelphia Parking Authority has permission, in cooperation with PennDOT, to seize registration plates on vehicles that have accumulated six or more unpaid parking tickets. The parking authority notifies PennDOT of the sixth unpaid parking ticket, which prompts notifications to be sent to the vehicle owner and gives them 30 days to respond or pay their fines. If the vehicle owner fails to pay, or ignores the notifications, PennDOT suspends the vehicle's registration, which forces the vehicle owner to return their license plate to PennDOT. To avoid returning the plate, a driver would need to pay their fines and receive a certificate of validation from the municipality. Once they receive this certificate, PennDOT removes the suspension.

By amending this section of the law, we would allow all of Pennsylvania's local governments to take advantage of this plan, and clamp down on parking scofflaws while also increasing revenues from unpaid parking tickets. Furthermore, this legislation will strictly target individuals who knowingly and purposely violate parking laws in our state.

If you are interesting in supporting this worthy legislation, please contact Cynthia Clory at 717-787-7514 or email her at CClory@pahouse.net if you would like to be added as a co-sponsor.