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House of Representatives commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

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MEMORANDUM

Date:

January 20, 2011

To:

All House Members

From:

Representative Tony DeLuca

Subject:

Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Medicaid Fraud: False Claims Act

I have been working with Representative Tina Davis to develop and introduce a package of legislation to tackle the issue of Medicaid Fraud. The legislative package will address the issue of fraud in the state's Medicaid program, as well as other health care programs administered by the state such as the Children's Health Insurance Program and the adultBasic program. The legislation will have its foundation in some recently enacted state and federal law, but will build upon those laws by extending those protections to our state programs.

My prepared legislation will initiate the Pennsylvania Anti-Fraud Health Care Act — an act which will authorize the Attorney General, agency counsel or private citizens to maintain civil actions for recovery of Medicaid and health care program funds lost through fraud, waste or abuse. Several other states and the federal government have similar laws and they have proven successful in fighting fraud.

It is estimated that for 2009, there was \$54 billion in losses to the Medicaid and Medicare programs due to fraud. In addition, it has been proven that investments in fraud detection and enforcement pay for themselves many times over. Recent federal legislation against fraud is already yielding results, and we hope that our joint legislative package will be equally productive for the Commonwealth.

If you would like to co-sponsor this important piece of legislation, please contact Stacia Longenecker at 717-787-4437 or via email slongene@pahouse.net