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House of Representatibes COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 11, 2011

RF:

Reintroduction of Legislation (former HB 2316)

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Ed Staback 25

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation that would add law enforcement officers from the Game Commission and the Fish & Boat Commission to the list of officials protected by higher penalties for aggravated assault in Title 18. That list of includes all other law enforcement officials, plus public servants, such as school board members, teachers, elected office holders and emergency responders. This proposal was introduced as House Bill 2316 during the 2009-10 Legislative Session.

In the Game Code, assaulting a Wildlife Conservation Officer is currently a Misdemeanor 2, no matter if serious bodily injury occurs. In the Fish Code, assaulting a Waterway Conservation Officer is a Felony 2, if serious bodily injury occurs. All other assaults are misdemeanors.

In my bill, assaulting either of those officers or deputies of either Commission will be tied to similar illegal acts toward other law enforcement personnel. For an assault resulting in a serious bodily injury, the crime will be a Felony 1. For such an act that results in simple bodily injury, the penalty will be a Felony 2. I believe both Wildlife Conservation Officers and Waterway Conservation Officers and Deputies deserve this protection.

Co-sponsors of the bill last session include Representatives Belfanti, Bradford, Buxton, Carroll, Casorio, Cohen, Conklin, Daley, DeWeese, Everett, Farry, Fleck, Freeman, George, Gergely, Gillespie, Godshall, Goodman, Harhai, Harkins, Hess. Hornaman, Hutchinson, Kotik, Kula, Levdansky, Mahoney, Miller, Moul, Murt, Petrarca, Readshaw, Reichley, Roae, Siptroth, K. Smith, Sonney, Stern, Swanger, Tallman, Vulakovich, and Youngblood.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation please contact Julie at 783-5043 or e-mail ifoley@pahouse.net