

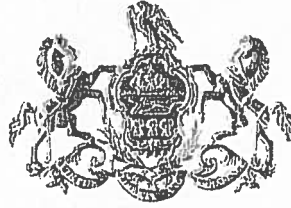
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Senate of Pennsylvania

January 21, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators
FROM:  Senator Lisa Baker
SUBJECT: Crime Victims Testimony Legislation

Please join me in co-sponsoring legislation to amend the Crime Victims Act to permit a crime victim or a family member to testify directly before a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole when the victim's offender is being considered for parole. Current law permits a crime victim to present written or oral comments for parole board consideration, as well as to testify before a hearing examiner.

Testifying directly to the decision makers is consistent with the rights provided to crime victims within the criminal justice system. It is my understanding the Office of Victim Advocate hears regularly from crime victims or a member of their family that testimony should be permitted to be personally presented to board members prior to a board decision.

If you wish to co-sponsor this proposal, please contact Liz Clancy at LClancy@pasen.gov or by phone at 787-7428.

Thank you.