

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Members of the House of Representatives

**FROM:** Representative Jaret Gibbons

**DATE:** January 26, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Co-sponsorship for Reintroduction of Legislation – Child Labor Act

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In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation providing a comprehensive rewrite of Pennsylvania's Child Labor Law.

Please note that I offered similar legislation last session as House Bill 19. This legislation was crafted based on recommended updates from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, proposals offered by Democratic and Republican members in previous sessions and input from representatives on all sides of the issues. A public hearing was held on House Bill 19 by the House Labor Relations Committee in September 2010; however, it was not taken up prior to the end of the session.

Specifically, my legislation seeks to update and organize the state's Child Labor Law in its entirety. Please note that this legislation would not affect minors' ability to work – I strongly believe that youths should be able to earn income and gain experience in our workforce. However, currently, our law is poorly constructed and standards and enforcement have not kept pace with changing economies and work environments. My bill would make changes to ensure appropriate oversight of child labor and much consistency with federal guidelines. It would make certain that our child labor law can be easily understood by employers and guarantee the Department of Labor and Industry the tools needed to provide effective enforcement.

I hope you will join me in co-sponsoring this important bill. If you would like to be added as a co-sponsor, please contact Susan Finger in my office at (717)705-2060 (in-house ext. 6626) or [sfinger@pahouse.net](mailto:sfinger@pahouse.net).