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**TO:** ALL SENATORS  
**FROM:** Senator Patricia H. Vance  
**DATE:** January 25, 2011  
**SUBJECT:** Memo #8 – Warning Signs at Fuel Pumps

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In the near future, I plan to reintroduce SB 1329 that would require the Department of Labor and Industry to draft regulations implementing standards for warning signs placed at retail service station fuel pumps.

An incident last year in my area points to the need for signs warning customers of potential hazards. While such incidents are very rare, a young man recently perished in a fire at a gasoline pump that a state police fire marshal said was sparked by a static electric discharge. According to studies of fires at gas pumps, re-entering a car during refueling may result in a static charge that could set off an explosion unless the static is discharged prior to touching the nozzle. Most pumps already contain warnings regarding static electricity, but there are no uniform standards for the signs or their placement.

The legislation provides for regulations requiring signs to be conspicuously posted and to include warnings or notices related to smoking prohibitions, hold-open fuel dispensing nozzles, portable container use, static electricity hazards and other safety hazards. Standards for the signs and their wording would be determined by the Department of Labor and Industry.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please email Tracy Polovick at [tpolovick@pasen.gov](mailto:tpolovick@pasen.gov) or call my office at 787-8524.