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Senate of Pennsylvania

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**TO:** ALL SENATORS  
**FROM:** Senator Patricia H. Vance  
**DATE:** February 2, 2011  
**SUBJECT:** Memo #11 – Long Term Care Protection Act

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In the near future, I plan to reintroduce SB 575 from last session that will protect residents of long-term care nursing facilities. If you would like to co-sponsor this measure, please email Tracy Polovick ([tpolovick@pasen.gov](mailto:tpolovick@pasen.gov)) or contact my office at 787-8524.

**Senate Bill 575**

This legislation will require designated individuals and/or relatives of residents in long-term care nursing facilities to receive notification of any enforcement actions taken against a facility. Enforcement actions are used by the Department of Health when there is a serious threat to the life, health, safety and well-being of the residents and can range from a suspension or revocation of a license to operate to a complete ban on new admissions and civil monetary penalties.

Often, the relatives of the residents (especially if they live out of the area) are not aware of the serious dangers their loved ones may face. Given the increasing demand for long-term care services, it is essential that consumers and their families be made aware of any infractions affecting the quality of care at a facility and the penalties imposed by the Commonwealth.