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Senate of Pennsylvania

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators
FROM:  Senator Lisa Baker
RE: Log Home Legislation
DATE: February 2, 2011

I intend to re-introduce the log home language included in Senate Bill 1077, PN 1681 from last session which passed the Senate on March 8, 2010. The co-sponsors of that measure were Senators Brubaker, Folmer, Rafferty, Robbins, Ward, D. White, Alloway and Dinniman. The log home language was also included in House Bill 1196, which passed the Senate on October 14, 2010.

Log homes built under the 2006 International Construction Code utilized energy efficiency equipment tradeoffs to offset the low insulation R-value relative to the 5" logs most commonly used in the construction of log homes. These energy efficiency tradeoffs were removed from the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and wall insulation requirements were made even more stringent.

The log home industry in Pennsylvania is at a distinct disadvantage as standard log home wall construction proven to be both acceptable and energy efficient for decades is no longer permitted. This bill will help the log home industry survive the current economic conditions by simply recognizing their unique form of construction and thermal mass efficiency.

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