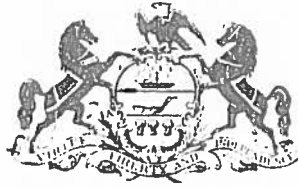


STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MATTHEW E. BAKER

PO BOX 202068
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2068
PHONE: (717) 772-5371
FAX: (717) 705-1835

DISTRICT OFFICES:
74 MAIN STREET
WELLSBORO, PA 16901
PHONE: (570) 724-1390
FAX: (570) 724-2168

430 CANTON STREET, SUITE 6
TROY, PA 16947
PHONE: (570) 297-3045
FAX: (570) 297-5551



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE

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CAUCUSES
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RURAL HEALTH CARE
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STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT
COUNCIL ACT - REVIEW COMMITTEE
CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Matt Baker, Majority Chairman
Health Committee

DATE: 1-27-11

RE: Re-Introduction of Former HB 158 (2007-08 session)
Precursor Substances

In the near future, I plan on re-introducing legislation that will make it easier for the law to keep up with the ever changing illegal drug trade business, especially with those criminals that manufacture methamphetamines at home.

Law enforcement has long been aware that drug dealers will experiment with chemicals to create new designer drugs. Moreover, drug dealers will often experiment with common household chemicals to develop new formulas for cooking illegal drugs. For example, cold tablets containing ephedrine can be used to illegally make methamphetamines. Regrettably, the law frequently lags behind the ingenuity of the criminals in the manufacture of these new designer drugs. Without a law to criminalize the new drugs, law enforcement is powerless to stop the manufacture of these dangerous substances.

My bill would solve this problem by giving the Department of Health the power to quickly add chemicals to the list of "precursor substances" under the Drug Act.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Gina in my office at 772-5769 or via email at Gstrine@pahousegop.com

Former Cosponsors: Baker, Marsico, Pickett, Stern, Beyer, Boyd, Daley, Freeman, Geist, Gingrich, Goodman, Harper, Hennessey, Hess, James, M.Keller, Killion, Kotik, Mahoney, McGeehan, Micozzie, Rapp, Staback, Stevenson, Swanger, Youngblood