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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

**CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

POLICY COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES
FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LOCAL TAX REFORM
RURAL HEALTH CARE
SPORTSMEN
TIMBER

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

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: REP. MATT BAKER

**RE: REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION –(FORMER HB 823)
AMENDING PA CONSTRUCTION CODE**

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2011

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) to require that citizens are provided written notification of their right to appeal decisions of code administrators. Under current law, municipalities which have elected to enforce the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) must establish a board of appeal to which citizens can challenge the decisions of code administrators. The law allows these boards to grant appeals if; 1) the UCC has been incorrectly interpreted; 2) the provisions of the act do not apply; and 3) an alternate form of construction can be used.

Unfortunately, I believe there are many instances where the average citizen is not aware of their right to appeal code administrator's decisions to the local appeal board. My legislation simply requires that code administrators provide written notification of this appeal right in their rulings/decisions. I believe this a common sense change to the law.

Please contact Gina Strine in my office at 772-5769 or via email at Gstrine@pahousegop.com if you wish to cosponsor this legislation.

FORMER COSPONSORS: Baker, Causer, Creighton, Freeman, George, Gingrich, Haluska, Hess, Hornaman, Kortz, R. Miller, Moul, Murt, Pickett, Reichley, Rock, Saylor, Stern, Stevenson, Swanger, Vulakovich