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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Haluska

DATE: January 18, 2011

SUBJECT: Legislation changing the design of the State Flag (Former HB 179)

I plan to re-introduce legislation that will add "Pennsylvania" to the state flag. Currently, the word "Pennsylvania" is not displayed on our flag.

As you may be aware, the flags of each state are flown at Mount Rushmore in the order that each state ratified the United State Constitution. Upon visiting this historical site, I discovered that many visitors did not know that the Commonwealth was the second state to ratify the United States Constitution because the word "Pennsylvania" was not displayed on the flag. Therefore, it is the intent of this legislation to ensure that no matter where the Commonwealth's flag is flown, people will know it is our state's flag.

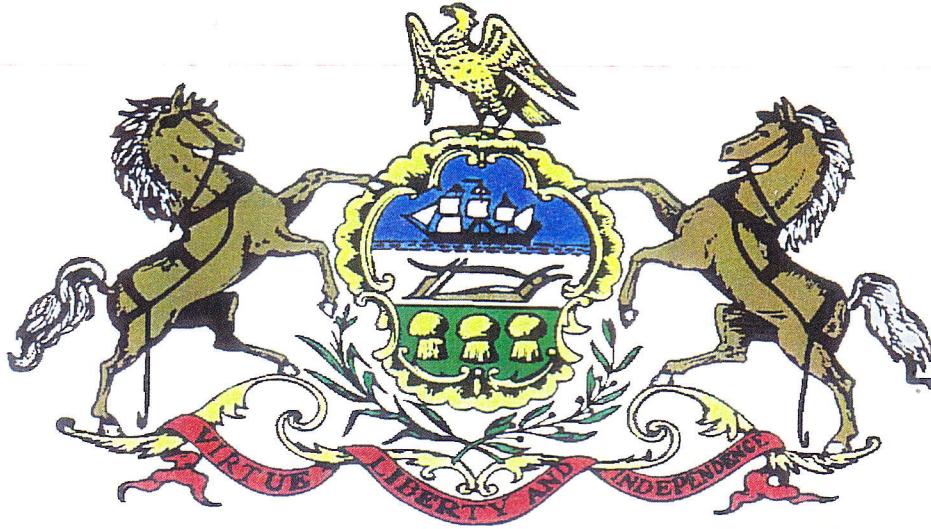
The proposed legislation will require the word "Pennsylvania" to be embroidered in yellow silk within a red drape that will traverse the flag's bald eagle. A picture of the proposed design is attached.

Furthermore, the legislation solicits commentary from the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission (PHMC) on the redesigned flag and designates functions of the PHMC regarding the redecorated flag. I believe that adding "Pennsylvania" to our state flag will instill a further sense of pride to our citizenry and great Commonwealth while ultimately helping others recognize an important piece of our heritage – our state flag.

This legislation was introduced last session as House Bill 179. If you would like to be a co-sponsor, please contact Marilyn via email at mjuran@pahouse.net.

FEB 7 2011

Present Pennsylvania Flag



Proposed Pennsylvania Flag

