



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Anthony H. Williams

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Date: December 16, 2010

To: All Senators

From: Senator Anthony H. Williams

Subject: Co-sponsorship of legislation: **Delaware River Port Authority Reform**

I intend to reintroduce Senate Bill 1488 from the 2009 – 2010 legislative session. The purpose of this legislation is to provide the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) with clearly-defined guidelines and prohibitions within which to operate. The goal of this legislation is to increase transparency and prevent impropriety within the DRPA.

In 2010 there were numerous news articles and reports that signify a culture of corruption and nepotism within the DRPA. This bill will rectify these issues by mandating parameters in which the DRPA and its commissioners, officers, directors and employees must operate within. This bill addresses the following concerns:

- Prohibitions on political dealings
- Guidelines on how contracts are to be awarded
- Preclusions pertaining to vehicle allowances and complimentary use of DRPA-controlled bridges and trains
- Prohibitions on relatives of commissioners, officers or directors from being hired by the DRPA
- Mandating reimbursed expenses of DRPA employees be itemized and published
- Subjecting the DRPA to the scrutiny of the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know law, New Jersey Open Public Records Act, New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, and the Pennsylvania statute regarding the openness of meetings.
- Granting the Pennsylvania Auditor General and New Jersey Comptroller the authority to conduct financial and performance audits of the DRPA

Previous co-sponsors of this legislation include Senators Rafferty and Greenleaf.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation or have any concerns, please contact Donald Gordon, Esq., at 717-787-5970 or dgordon@pasenate.com.