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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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DATE: February 14, 2011

TO: All members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Rep. Thomas R. Caltagirone

RE: Re-introduction of Legislation – Raising the dollar limit for recording fees, fines, and costs arising from criminal trials as if they were civil judgments (the former HB2627).

I will soon be re-introducing legislation that would raise to \$5,000 the threshold above which Clerks of Court are mandated to submit certified copies of court ordered fees, fines, costs and restitution to our county Prothonotaries to be recorded as civil judgments.

With the present \$1,000 threshold, almost all criminal cases result in this filing requirement. This was never the legislative intent. The mandatory filing was intended to catch primarily the higher dollar value cases, and now the burden on both Clerks and Prothonotaries to accomplish these certified filings is creating difficult backlogs in their offices. This primarily affects Pennsylvania's larger and medium-sized counties.

All cases, of whatever amount *may* continue to be so recorded, but the legislation raises the *mandatory* threshold to \$5,000, which will then be subjected to triennial inflation adjustment to keep it relevant.

The state associations representing county Clerks of Court and Prothonotaries support, and have asked for, this legislation.

The prior term's cosponsors were: CALTAGIRONE, BELFANTI, BRENNAN, CUTLER, DENLINGER, FLECK, GOODMAN, HARKINS, JOSEPHS, KORTZ, KULA, MILLARD, MURT, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH AND YOUNGBLOOD.

If you wish to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Patty Tamayo in my office at 787-3525, or e-mail at [ptamayo@pahouse.net](mailto:ptamayo@pahouse.net).