THE STATE CAPITOL
SENATE BOX 203028
ROOM 9 EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3028
PHONE: (717) 787-3817
FAX: (717) 783-1900
EMAIL: mwaugh@pasen.gov
WEB: www.senatorwaugh.com



Senate of Pennsylvania MIKE WAUGH SENATOR

MEMORANDUM

FEB 09 2011

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MAJORITY CHAIRMAN

DATE:

February 9, 2011

TO:

All Senators

FROM:

Senator Michael Waugh

SUBJECT:

Request to co-sponsor legislation

Geographic Diversity of Horse Racing Commission Members

I am reintroducing Senate Bill 371 from the 2009-10 session. This bill amends Section 201(a) of Act 135 of 1981 (the Race Horse Industry Reform Act). I believe that this legislation is needed to ensure geographic diversity among the members of the State Horse Racing Commission. Under this proposal, "not more than two of the three commissioners shall at the time of the appointment reside in the same county."

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Other state commissions – notably the Fish Commission and Game Commission – require that members be chosen from specific regions. While my legislation does not go this far, it does ensure more geographic diversity among the Commission's members. Pennsylvania's horse racing industry is statewide in its scope, and the Commission charged with its oversight should have members from more than one area.

Co-sponsors of Senate Bill 371 were Senators Alloway, Brubaker, Orie, Pileggi, Vance and Ward.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Debbie Clark in my office at 787-3817 or via email at dclark@pasen.gov.