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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Ted Harhai

DATE: February 14, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Legislation to Establish Regulations Governing Vehicle Event Data Records

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation to establish the Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorder Act, which will place certain restrictions and requirements for vehicle event data recorders (EDR's).

More specifically, my proposal would require manufacturers of new motor vehicles sold or leased in Pennsylvania to disclose in the vehicle-operating manual whether the vehicle is equipped with an EDR. If the vehicle is equipped with an EDR, then the legislation provides a description of the data which can be recorded and notice that data downloaded or otherwise retrieved by a data recorder can be used as evidence in any legal proceedings.

In addition, this legislation also prohibits individuals from downloading or retrieving data unless if under any of the following circumstances:

- The owner of the vehicle consents to the downloading or retrieving of data.
- A subpoena is lawfully issued requesting the data.
- The vehicle is involved in an accident.
- The data retrieved is used for the purpose of diagnosing, servicing, or repairing the vehicle.
- The National Transportation Safety Board requests it regarding an accident investigation.

Any data retrieved or downloaded under this act shall not be sufficient as the sole evidence in any adjudication of the cause of a motor vehicle accident unless it is corroborated by other evidence.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Elisa in my office at (717)-772-2820 or by e-mail at eklee@pahouse.net .