SCOTT PERRY, MEMBER

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House of Representatibes

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Scott Perry 640

92nd Legislative District

DATE:

February 14, 2011

RE:

Sanctuary Cities - Funding (prior House Bill 2034)

As part of the national debate over the issues and concerns surrounding illegal immigration, media reports have brought to light the term "sanctuary city". A sanctuary city is one which has adopted ordinances, policies or informal procedures to encourage unauthorized individuals to reside within its borders. These could include policies which provide extensive public benefits to those who are in the country illegally or procedures which prohibit local law enforcement officers from assisting federal immigration enforcement officials.

I am concerned that these municipalities, in some cases, flaunt their interference with immigration enforcement. In response to this problem, I intend to re-introduce the "Sanctuary Municipalities Financial Penalty Law" (prior House Bill 2034). It would establish a procedure for the Secretary of State to investigate complaints that a municipality was, in fact, promoting residence by unauthorized individuals.

If a municipality was determined to be a sanctuary municipality, a Commonwealth appropriation or expenditure of funds by a Commonwealth agency to benefit that municipality OR the residents of the municipality would be held in an escrow account until at least 30 days after the municipality repealed the offending ordinances, policies or procedures. The only funds which would not be subject to this escrow provision would be those associated with:

- Law enforcement or corrections,
- The operation of courts.
- Emergency preparedness or disaster response, or
- Medical services

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Lisa Seilhammer at 783-8783 or through e-mail at lseilham@pahousegop.com

Prior co-sponsors of House Bill 2034: - METCALFE, CREIGHTON, MUSTIO, BARRAR, BEAR, CLYMER, COX, CUTLER, DENLINGER, EVERETT, GROVE, HUTCHINSON, KRIEGER, MOUL, PHILLIPS, RAPP, READSHAW, ROCK, SCHRODER, SONNEY, STEVENSON, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH and GRELL

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