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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Daryl Metcalfe

DATE:

February 14, 2011

RE:

E-Verify Legislation

The federal government has a program, known as the Employment Eligibility Verification Program, (**E-Verify**), to help employers determine whether prospective employees are unauthorized aliens. The program is operated jointly by the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration. E-Verify is a free program and is the best means available for determining employment eligibility of new hires and the validity of their Social Security numbers.

I intend to introduce legislation to require all employers in the Commonwealth, including governmental bodies, to enroll in the E-Verify program. Failure to enroll in the program would result in the suspension of all business licenses, permits, registrations and certificates held by a private business. The same penalty would apply if a private business employed an unauthorized alien.

The legislation would provide for an enforcement mechanism which recognized an employer's right to challenge any suspension. Also, any suspension for an initial violation would end as soon as the employer complied with the requirements of the legislation. Subsequent violations would result in a suspension of at least 20 days.

Finally, the legislation would authorize political subdivisions to enact ordinances denying business licenses to employers of unauthorized aliens.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Jessica Smith at 717-783-1707, or via e-mail at <u>jasmith@pahousegop.com</u>.

Thank you.

DDM/jas