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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Scott Conklin
Date: February 15, 2011
Re: Freedom to Shoot Act Legislation

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that will aid the Pennsylvania Game Commission in cleaning up projectiles and targets that have accumulated in areas around the proximities of sport shooting and training ranges as a result of their operations.

Many Pennsylvanians utilize sport shooting and training ranges for their enjoyment. Many firearms enthusiasts utilize these facilities in order to exercise their Second Amendment right. These facilities remain a popular destination for Pennsylvania's sportsmen and other outdoor enthusiasts.

In 2006, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources raised concerns that generations of lead left behind from trap shells fired on the properties of sport shooting and training ranges have polluted these sites. If enacted, the Freedom to Shoot Act will create a task force to study lead remediation at firing ranges. The task force, which will be comprised of individuals from the PA Department of Environmental Protection, the PA Game Commission, and the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, will recommend a standard for lead remediation based upon its findings.

In addition, my legislation establishes the "Range Clean-up Trust Fund" to collect revenues gained from reclamation operations conducted by the Game Commission. These funds will be used as an operating budget for the task force.

Please join me in aiding to study the impact of lead remediation on our environment and help to clean up one of Pennsylvania's many important recreational attractions. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact James Moser in my district office via email at jmoser@pahouse.net or at 814-238-5477.