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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

February 14, 2011

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TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Jim Marshall
14th Legislative District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J Marshall", written over the printed name and district information.

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – **(Burial Details for Veterans)**

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would prohibit political subdivisions from regulating and/or charging a fee for military burial details to perform or discharge blank ammunition out of their ceremonial rifles.

Specifically, I plan to amend Section 705 of Title 51 of the Military Affairs Code relating to Burial details for veterans.

A Military burial honor is a venerated ceremony that all eligible veterans are entitled to receive and this military honor is often performed by veterans' service organizations, such as the American Legion and the VFW. I and many veterans believe that charging a fee or requiring a permit to conduct a military burial honor is disrespectful to all of our fallen veterans who have honorably served this great country. Under federal law, all eligible veterans are entitled to full military burial honors and state and local governments should be prohibited from interfering with this sacred and honorable ceremony.

Veterans who have served their country and are entitled to this benefit deserve respect in life and in death. Therefore, I believe we need to codify a protection of this benefit into state law to counter contemporary local government ordinances, which adversely regulate the discharge of ceremonial rifles, and the performance of this noble duty.

If you wish to sponsor this legislation, please contact Paula in my Harrisburg office at 260-6432 or by email at pschadel@pahousegop.com.

Thank you.