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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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Memorandum

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives
FROM: Representative Eddie Day Pashinski
DATE: February 15, 2011
SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Resolution- “Music in Our Schools Month”

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution designating March 2011 as “Music in Our Schools Month” in Pennsylvania.

The importance of music education in our schools cannot be downplayed. The study of music offers many benefits to those who participate, such as developing creativity and problem-solving skills, as well as an understanding of history and culture. Moreover, research has indicated that children who partake in music education at an early age are more likely to pursue higher education, have lower instances of high school dropout rates, and score significantly higher on standardized tests than students not involved in music studies. According to the results of a recent poll, seventy-two percent of adults that were involved in music education agree that it equips people to be better team players in their career, and nearly six in ten agree that music education has influenced their creative problem-solving skills.

Music education continues to be an integral part of our state’s overall educational system. Music educators in Pennsylvania are committed to maintaining and improving school music programs for students of all socio-economic backgrounds and without regard to their musical abilities. With this in mind, it is fitting that we recognize the overall importance of music education in this state and the tireless efforts of music educators by setting aside March 2011 as “Music in Our Schools Month” in Pennsylvania.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution please contact Lauren Bordner in my Harrisburg office at lbordner@pahouse.net.