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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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February 28, 2011

TO: **Members of the House of Representatives**
FROM: **Representative Bill Kortz** 
RE: **Co-sponsorship of Legislation Prohibiting the Following of School Buses too Closely**

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that will amend Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to prohibit a motorist from following a school bus closer than ten feet, and require new school buses to display an exterior reflective label, sticker, or sign on the rear of the bus stating "*At all times stay back a minimum of 10 feet. It is the law.*"

As you may know, Title 75 requires drivers to stay ten feet away from a bus that has its red signal lights flashing and its side stop sign signal arms activated. However, there is not currently a provision in law which requires motorists to keep the ten foot minimum distance when following a school bus otherwise. As a result, it is not uncommon to witness motorists overtaking school buses when they should not, and this action is a serious issue that can result in tragic accidents.

My legislation would amend Title 75 to require the ten foot distance to be maintained at all times, regardless is the red signal lights on the bus are flashing. In addition to this, any school buses manufactured and registered after the effective date of this legislation would be required to have an exterior, reflective label, sticker, or sign that reminds motorists following the bus of the minimum ten foot requirement.

If you would like to co-sponsor this important legislation, please contact Stephanie Jackson at 717-787-8175 or by e-mail at SJackson@pahouse.net.