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House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

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February 28, 2011

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Bill Kortz

RE: Co-sponsorship-Recovery of Lost Pets (former HB614)

MEMORANDUM

In the near future, I will reintroduce HB614, which would make it easier for pet owners to recover lost pets.

Currently, the Pennsylvania Dog Law provides a 48-hour waiting period when authorized officials find a dog running at large on public streets or highways or upon the property of a person other than the owner of the dog when unaccompanied by the owner or keeper. In some instances the owner may be away on vacation for the weekend and unbeknownst to them, their dog leaves the property. The 48-hour waiting period may elapse without the owner ever knowing that their dog is missing. Once a dog owner realizes that their dog is missing, they do not always have a single phone number they can call to obtain a list of lost dogs in the area.

This legislation would extend the 48-hour waiting period to 96-hours (excluding weekends and official holidays). Additionally, the legislation would require police departments to keep a list of lost dogs picked up within their municipality and require this information to be made publically available.

If you would like to co-sponsor this measure, please contact Stephanie Jackson at (717) 787-8175 or at sjackson@pahouse.net.

Previous co-sponsors: Boyd, Brennan, Caltagirone, Conklin, Fabrizio, Fleck, Frankel, Freeman, Geist, Gibbons, Goodman, Grove, Haluska, Harhart, Hennessey, Hornaman, Killion, Kirkland, Mahoney, Milne, Moul, O'Neill, Quinn, Readshaw, Sainato, Scavello, Swanger, Vulakovich, White, Youngblood, Galloway, Farry, Harhai and Kauffman