

BILL KORTZ, MEMBER
38TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

CAPITOL OFFICE:
6B EAST WING
P.O. BOX 202038
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2038
PHONE: (717) 787-8175
FAX: (717) 780-4783

DISTRICT OFFICES:

751 PITTSBURGH MCKEESPORT BOULEVARD
DRAVOSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 15034
PHONE: (412) 466-1940
FAX: (412) 460-3023

5101 OLD CLAIRTON ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15236
PHONE: (412) 886-2870
FAX: (412) 886-2871

E-MAIL: BKORTZ@PAHOUSE.NET
WEB SITE: WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/KORTZ



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES


APPROPRIATIONS
AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES
FINANCE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS

CAUCUSES

ALZHEIMERS, CO-CHAIR
PRO-LIFE
FIREFIGHTERS
STEEL
OIL & GAS
SPORTSMENS
SPEAKER MUHLENBERG GERMAN-AMERICAN

February 28, 2011

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Bill Kortz 

RE: Co-sponsorship of legislation restricting cell phone use, eating and drinking by school bus drivers

MEMORANDUM

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation that will amend the Public School Code by prohibiting school bus drivers from using cellular or wireless phones, as well as the consumption of any food or beverages, while operating a school bus or school vehicle that is transporting children.

Specifically, this legislation would prohibit the use of a cellular phone, or similar device, while operating a school bus/vehicle that is transporting children, but would still allow the use of a two-way radio for communication purposes. Additionally, a driver would be permitted to use a cellular phone in an emergency situation.

The bill also contains a provision, recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, which provides an exemption for school bus drivers that have medical conditions which may require them to consume food or beverages. However, this exemption still requires a driver to park in a safe area off of a roadway to consume food or beverages.

Under this proposal, a violation of this law would be a primary offense and carry a fine of \$50 to \$100, or a fine of \$300 if a violation results in a traffic accident.

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.