



House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** All House Members  
**From:** Representative Brendan F. Boyle  
**Date:** March 1, 2011  
**Subject:** Co-sponsorship of Legislation: Chronic Care Commission

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I will be re-introducing House Bill 2157, which passed the Health Committee unanimously last session. This legislation will be known as the Pennsylvania Chronic Care Commission Act, which will build upon the successes already achieved by the Pennsylvania Chronic Care Management, Reimbursement and Cost Reduction Commission. That Commission identified and initiated a strategic plan for addressing chronic disease treatment (e.g. diabetes, asthma, pulmonary disease, heart conditions) so as to improve the quality of care while reducing avoidable illnesses and their attendant costs.

With almost one-half of Pennsylvanians suffering with chronic diseases and chronic disease patients accounting for 80% of all health care costs and hospitalizations; 76% of all physician visits; and 91% of all filled prescriptions chronic diseases are a significant drain on the Commonwealth's health care system. My legislation will assure that we continue to systematically attack those diseases, which will benefit all Pennsylvanians.

My legislation will establish the Chronic Care Commission in law and house it within the Department of Health. The Commission's stated purpose will be "to design and implement the informational, technological and reimbursement infrastructure needed to support the components for chronic care in relevant health care facilities and among health care providers." Stated simply, the Commission will spearhead efforts to ensure the efficient and economical application of medical resources to those Pennsylvanians suffering from chronic conditions. It will do so through (1) dissemination of information and support to patients; (2) provision of information to health care providers; (3) collection and analysis of relevant data; (4) supporting state and local partnerships that seek to treat and care for those with chronic diseases; and, (5) engage patients and health care providers in chronic care improvement efforts.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please contact Kristen Womelsdorf in my office at [kwomelsd@pahouse.net](mailto:kwomelsd@pahouse.net) or 717-787-3055.