JOHN R. EVANS, MEMBER

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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

MEMORANDUM

COMMITTEES
GAMES AND FISHERIES,
REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
RULES

POLICY

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative John R. Evans

DATE:

March 1, 2011

RE:

COMMUNITY-BASED HEATLH CARE (CHC) PROGRAM

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce former HB 1824 of 2007-2008 session. At that time, the legislation passed the House unanimously, but died in the Senate. Given the uncertainty of our economy, the growing number of unemployed in our state and what appears to be an end of adultBasic program, I believe this legislation is both necessary and timely.

As you may recall, my legislation will significantly expand access to health care by expanding community health centers across the Commonwealth - local facilities which serve the uninsured, underinsured and Medicaid populations.

This measure will support more locations, increase services, and expand availability of health care services in our state. Additionally, my legislation provides a focus on improvements in obstetrical and newborn care (including providing mobile obstetrical clinics serving both rural and urban areas).

Health centers currently serve close to 500,000 Pennsylvanians. Such centers can play a major role in providing primary care and minimizing unnecessary emergency room utilization by providing a medical home for these underserved populations.

The bill was developed several sessions ago by the House Republican Health Care Task Force through extensive consultation with consumers, health centers, physicians and others in the health care industry, and is designed to direct resources where they can be most efficiently deployed.

If you would like to cosponsor this measure, please contact Anne by phone at 2-9940 or via e-mail ayanikov@pahousegop.com.

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