

**33RD SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

- **SENATE BOX 203033  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120  
(717) 787-4651  
FAX: (717) 772-2753**
  
- **37 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 200  
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201  
(717) 264-6100  
FAX: (717) 264-3652**
  
- **237 EAST MAIN STREET  
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268  
(717) 762-9222  
FAX: (717) 749-5649**
  
- **53 EAST MIDDLE STREET  
GETTYSBURG, PA 17325  
(717) 334-4169  
TOLL FREE: (866) 334-1863  
FAX: (717) 334-5911**

**MAR 15 2011**



**Senate of Pennsylvania**

**RICHARD ALLOWAY, II  
SENATOR**

**COMMITTEES**

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LAW AND JUSTICE, VICE CHAIRMAN  
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MAJORITY POLICY  
RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

**WEBSITE ADDRESS  
[www.senatoralloway.com](http://www.senatoralloway.com)**

**INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS  
[alloway@pasen.gov](mailto:alloway@pasen.gov)**

**TO: All Senators**

**FROM: Senator Richard Alloway II**

**SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship Memo – Busing Bill**

**DATE: March 15, 2011**

In the near future, I will be introducing legislation that will amend the Public School Code of 1949 (P.L.30, No. 14), entitled "An Act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing and changing the laws relating thereto, "providing for transportation of pupils.

Currently the Public School Code specifies in Section 1361, when provided, the board of school directors in any school district may, out of the funds of the district, provide for the free transportation of any resident pupil to and from the kindergarten, elementary school, or secondary school in which he/she is lawfully enrolled, provided that such school is not operated for profit and is located within the district boundaries or outside the district boundaries at a distance not exceeding ten miles by the nearest public highway, except that such ten-mile limit shall not apply to area vocational technical schools which regularly serve eligible district pupils or to special schools and classes approved by the Department of Education, and to and from any points within or without the Commonwealth in order to provide field trips for any purpose connected with the educational pursuits of the pupils. Such transportation of pupils attending nonpublic schools shall be provided during regular school hours on such dates and periods that the nonpublic school not operated for profit is in regular session, according to the school calendar officially adopted by the directors of the same in accordance with provisions of law. The board of school directors shall provide such transportation whenever so required by any of the provisions of this act or of any other act of Assembly.

Specifically, this legislation eliminates any requirement for school districts located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to transport pupils to any school or school district located outside of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania except for special schools and classes that provide specialized instruction to students with disabilities approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Bussing out of state is very costly to districts and may not align with the resident school district's bell schedules and scheduled class days.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Melissa Knepper at [mknepper@pasen.gov](mailto:mknepper@pasen.gov) or by phone at 772-2929.