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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Ken Smith
DATE: March 23, 2011
SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of legislation to require all colleges, universities and community colleges in Pennsylvania to implement a written alcohol policy

In the near future I intend to introduce legislation which amends the Liquor Code to require all colleges, universities and community colleges in Pennsylvania to implement a written alcohol policy. Currently, institutions of higher education are not required to do so.

Under this legislation, failure of an institution of higher education to adopt a written alcohol policy would result in ineligibility to receive grants funded by the PA Liquor Control Board's Alcohol Education Fund.

This legislation requires the written policy to include the following:

- 1) All students must receive a summary of the commonwealth's liquor laws and Penalties relating to underage drinking, including but not limited to consumption, purchasing, furnishing to minors, driving under the influence and misrepresentation of age to purchase alcohol.
- 2) Violation of PA laws relating to underage drinking and/or the schools policy will result in educational counseling for the first offense, counseling and probation for a second offense and one semester suspension from the institution and a period of ineligibility of one semester for state funded financial grants or scholarships for a third or subsequent offense.

Additionally, the policy must be distributed to each student both upon enrollment and once during each semester thereafter. The policy must also be posted on the school's internet website.

If you care to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Julie in my office via email at jyarrish@pahouse.net.