

From: Donna Oberlander
To: Appropriations; Democratic House Members; Leadership Support Staff - Harrisburg; Member Support Staff - Harrisburg; Republican House Members
Date: 3/30/2011 4:34 PM
Subject: Co-Sponsor Memo to Reform the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

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TO: Members of the House of Representatives
FROM: Representative Donna Oberlander (District 63)
DATE: March 30, 2011
SUBJECT: Co-Sponsor Request to Reform the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would reform the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP), which provides free and subsidized transportation to and from medical appointments. In order to qualify for MATP services, an individual must be enrolled in Medical Assistance and be unable to provide for his or her own transportation.

A recent audit from the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee found that the program, especially relating to mileage reimbursement for methadone treatment, was fraught with waste, abuse, and inefficient use of taxpayer dollars. DPW's recent rule change limiting mileage reimbursement to one of the two closest methadone clinics is expected to produce \$1.3 million in savings per year. I believe we can take a step further and implement stronger safeguards to further protect the true purpose of program.

My bill will provide new oversight and verification processes, revised mileage reimbursement calculations, increased program integration into fraud detection programs and restrictions on future benefit increases. With these changes, we can squeeze the waste and fraud out of the program and preserve it for those who need it the most.

To sign on to this legislation either email Randy Donath at rdonath@pahousegop.com or call my office at 717.772.9908.

Sincerely,

Donna Oberlander
State Representative
63rd Legislative District