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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 25, 2011
TO: All House Members
FROM: Rep. Tim Krieger *TK*
57th Legislative District
SUBJECT: Request for Cosponsorship – Right to Transport Firearms

In the near future, I intend to re-introduce legislation that was introduced last session by Rep. Mike Turzai as House Bill 750. This legislation will clarify the existing state law pertaining to the legal transportation of firearms in Pennsylvania. The current law is confusing and unnecessarily complex. This may be best illustrated by quoting just one of the 15 paragraphs related to the topic, which permits a private individual to transport firearms as follows:

“from the place of purchase to his home or place of business, or to a place of repair, sale or appraisal or back to his home or place of business, or in moving from one place of abode or business to another or from his home to a vacation or recreational home or dwelling or back, or to recover stolen property under section 6111.1(b)(4) (relating to Pennsylvania State Police), or to a place of instruction intended to teach the safe handling, use or maintenance of firearms or back or to a location to which the person has been directed to relinquish firearms under 23 Pa.C.S. §6108.2 (relating to relinquishment for consignment sale, lawful transfer or safekeeping) or back upon return of the relinquished firearm...”

My legislation will replace this language and similar provisions with a more general principle, i.e., you may transport a firearm for a lawful purpose as long as it is unloaded. The concept of legal transportation for a “lawful purpose” comes from federal law as well as the laws of states as varied as Vermont, Iowa and Michigan. Further, this legislation will clarify language in our current transportation law related to reciprocal recognition of individuals licensed to carry a firearm in another state.

If you would like to join me in sponsoring this bill, please contact Nancy Shenk at nshenk@pahousegop.com or call my Harrisburg office at 717-260-6146. Thank you!

PRIOR COSPONSORS OF HB 750 (TURZAI): Turzai, Baker, Barrar, Bear, Belfanti, Benninghoff, Beyer, Boback, Boyd, Brooks, Causer, Christiana, Clymer, Cox, Creighton, Cutler, Dally, Delozier, Denlinger, Ellis, D. Evans, Everett, Fairchild, Fleck, Gabig, Gabler, Geist, George, Gibbons, Gillespie, Gingrich, Goodman, Grell Grove, Haluska, Harhart, Harris, Helm, Hess, Hornaman, Hutchinson, Kauffman, M. Keller, Kortz, Kotik, Krieger, Major, Marshall, Mensch, Metcalfe, Metzgar, Millard, Miller, Moul, Mustio, Oberlander, Payne, Peifer, Perry, Phillips, Pickett, Pyle, Quigley, Rapp, Reed, Reese, Reichley, Roae, Rock, Rohrer, Saylor, Scavello, Schroder, Seip, Siptroth, S.H. Smith, Solobay, Sonney, Stern, Stevenson, Swanger, Tallman, Vereb, Vulakovich, Wansacz, White, Markosek, Mahoney, Hickernell, Grucela, Kula, Casorio and Day