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**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: All House Members**

**FROM: Representative Doug Reichley**

**SUBJECT: Co-Sponsor Memo - Hospital Certification Legislation (Prior HB 2151)**

**DATE: May 5, 2011**

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In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation amending the Health Care Facilities At which governs the way hospitals are inspected and licensed in Pennsylvania.

As you may be aware, hospitals throughout Pennsylvania are compelled to undergo licensing inspections from both professional organizations governing hospital standards and from the state Department of Health. Unfortunately, these sudden inspections can be conducted without any prior notice, are duplicative of each other, and drive up hospital overhead costs by diverting hospital personnel from their normal work duties in order to provide documentation required by inspectors,

To eliminate the redundant nature of two accreditation and licensure surveys, I am proposing legislation under which the state will have the authority to grant "deemed status" licensure to facilities accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American Association of Osteopathic Hospitals, or under the federal government's state delegated certification for Conditions of Participation for Medicare and Medicaid. Those hospitals which are neither accredited nor certified by JCAHO, AAOH, or the federal procedure would still be subject to the regulations of the Health Department for: care of patients; medical supervision of patients, physical environment, infection control, quality assurance, safety, sanitation and dietary matters.

If you are interested in joining me in the co-sponsorship of this legislation to simplify hospital inspection procedures and reduce health care costs, please contact my assistant Kendra Weiderhold at 7-1000 or kwiederh@pahousegop.com.