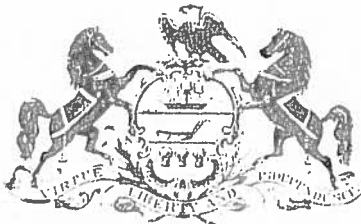


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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 27, 2011

TO: All House Members

FROM: Sue Helm, 104th Legislative District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Helm".

SUBJECT: Improving Pennsylvania's Megan's Law Website

According to a recent special report issued by the Auditor General, Pennsylvania's Megan's Law webSite received a C minus grade (which includes a D for search functions and a D minus for features and tools). The webSite fails to provide the public with basic information such as up-to-date photographs and street addresses of registered sex offenders. The website is an immeasurable safety tool for parents who use the website to distance their children from neighbors who are offenders and have the potential to re-offend. The website must provide the public with useful, accurate, and easily accessible information.

Rather than meeting just the minimum requirements of a Megan's Law website, Pennsylvania should offer families greater protection and enhance public safety. To address the shortcomings of the website, we will be introducing legislation amending Chapter 97 of Title 42, (Megan's Law) to provide the following:

- Ensure photographs are consistent and adequate so sex offenders are recognized in clearly dated multiple photos which include profile views
- List all sex offenses for which the offender was convicted and definitions so the public can identify non-compliant offenders and clearly understand the profiles

- **Implementing procedures for the State Police to identify and correct website data entry errors**
- **Establish an e-mail notification system to provide public notification of when an offender moves into a designated area or changes their address**

If you would like to join us in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Karen Waters at kwaters@pahousegop.com or call my office at 7-1230.