## SCOTT PERRY, MEMBER 92ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Scott Perry 92<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District

DATE:

May 18, 2011

SUBJECT:

Re-introduction of Legislation

The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) is a bipartisan, bicameral legislative service agency consisting of 12 members of the General Assembly. Created by Act 195 of 1959, the Committee is to conduct studies and make recommendations aimed at eliminating unnecessary expenditures; promoting fiscal responsibility within the government; and assuring that state funds are being expended in accordance with legislative intent and law. Therefore, I intend to re-introduce legislation (HB 71 of the 2009-2010 session) that would expand the responsibilities and duties of the LBFC within the framework of the budget process.

Each year, the Governor addresses the General Assembly with a partisan agenda for the upcoming fiscal year. Working within the current structure of the LBFC, I intend to introduce legislation that would expand the role and duties of the LBFC, by requiring them to make formal performance based budgetary recommendations directly to the General Assembly.

Since 1957, New Mexico has been using a similar approach. The Legislative Finance Committee holds public hearings to consider different recommendations to the budget. At these hearings the public is welcome to make comments and propose ideas to the Committee. From these hearings the Committee assembles an independent budget and submits it along with the Governors budget.

This unique approach, in that both the governor and a legislative agency propose a comprehensive state budget to the full legislature will only encourage fiscal efficiency and will provide an alternative bi-partisan performance based perspective to state spending.

Should you wish to co-sponsor this legislative proposal, please contact Lisa Seilhammer at 783-8783 or through Groupwise at <a href="mailto:lseilham@pahousegop.com">lseilham@pahousegop.com</a>

Previous co-sponsors: BARRAR, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, EVERETT, GEIST, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRELL, GROVE, HARRIS, HESS, HUTCHINSON, MOUL, ROAE, ROCK, SAYLOR, STEVENSON, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH, THOMAS and DENLINGER