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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representative Joe Emrick 

Subject: Co-sponsor Legislation: Compelled Removal of Outdoor Advertising Displays

Date: May 26, 2011

In the near future I plan to introduce legislation for Compelled Removal of Outdoor Advertising Displays. This legislation will amend Act 247 of 1968; known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

This legislation would require communities who impose sign removal conditions as part of the rezoning process to compensate sign owners for the lost value of the sign. This legislation will permit the owner of the sign to seek just compensation from the condemnor, and may, at its expense, have the right to relocate the sign to another location on the same property that is zoned for commercial or industrial use. If a sign is relocated, it must conform to PENNDOT'S Regulations under the outdoor Advertising control Act of 1971.

Some local governments have begun to require landowners, as part of the process to rezone a piece of property, to remove the outdoor advertising or billboard presently on the property without compensation to the sign owner in order to achieve the proposed generating temporary structure as a condition of a rezoning approval is a "taking" and the community imposing the sign removal condition should be required to compensate the sign owner for the lost value of the sign.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Jenna Heagey in my Harrisburg office at (717)260-6159 or via email jheagey@pahousegop.com. Thank you.