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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Frank Farry *FF*

DATE: May 26, 2011

SUBJECT: Cosponsorship of Legislation – Criminal Laboratory User Fees

In the near future, I am planning to introduce legislation that will amend Section 1725.3 of Title 42 (Judicial Code) relating to criminal laboratory user fees.

Under current law, the criminal laboratory user fee that is imposed on criminals in cases where laboratory services are required is only paid to counties of the first and second class, who operate their own laboratories, or into a special fund entitled the Criminal Laboratory User Fee Fund. The Criminal Laboratory User Fee Fund is appropriated to the Pennsylvania State Police to be used solely for the operation and maintenance of Pennsylvania State Police criminal laboratories.

It has been brought to my attention that counties of the first and second class are not the only counties who are operating their own laboratories. The counties that are not classified as first or second class counties are not receiving any of the monies collected via the criminal laboratory user fee which was meant to offset the costs of operating a criminal laboratory. My legislation will make a simple change to the language of the statute so that all counties who operate their own laboratories will receive monies paid by criminals via the criminal laboratory user fee. Any monies collected in counties without their own criminal laboratories will still be paid into the Criminal Laboratory User Fee Fund.

If you would like to join me in sponsoring this bill, please contact Dawn Pelletier at 260-6140 or via email at dpelleti@pahousegop.com.