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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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APPOINTMENT

PENNSYLVANIA'S GOVERNORS COUNCIL LIAISON  
FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS  
AND THE MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

**TO:** All House Members  
**FROM:** Representative Jake Wheatley, Jr.  
**DATE:** June 15, 2011  
**SUBJECT:** Re-introduction of former House Bill 2760 (2009-2010): Ages of Children Served by Pediatric Extended Care Centers

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I plan to re-introduce legislation amending the Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers Act to allow persons less than 21 years of age to be eligible for the centers' services.

Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PECCs) are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health to provide services to nonresidential medically dependent or technologically dependent children eight years of age or younger. The children utilizing these services require continuous therapeutic intervention or supervision of a skilled nurse. Services are prescribed by a physician and administered under the direct supervision of a registered nurse.

Currently, PECCs require the cessation of services when a child reaches the age of nine. At this point, case managers have limited service alternatives available to care for these children. School districts providing care for special needs children are not able to provide services after school hours, or when school is not in session. If the child's parents work, the only alternative is hospitalization, in-home nursing care, or medically qualified foster parents.

Parents of these children are very concerned with what will happen when their child reaches the age whereby services will end. This legislation will help to address this valid concern.

If you would like to join me and co-sponsor this important legislation, please contact April Ashe via email [aashe@pahouse.net](mailto:aashe@pahouse.net) and Oladapo Layiwola via email at [olayiwol@pahouse.net](mailto:olayiwol@pahouse.net) or by phone at 717-783-3783.

## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 24, 1999 (P.L.884, No.54), entitled  
2 "An act relating to the licensure and regulation of pediatric  
3 extended care centers in this Commonwealth," providing for a  
4 definition of "child"; and further providing for the  
5 definition of "medically dependent or technologically  
6 dependent child."

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The definition of "medically dependent or  
10 technologically dependent child" in section 3 of the act of  
11 November 24, 1999 (P.L.884, No.54), known as the Prescribed  
12 Pediatric Extended Care Centers Act, is amended and the section  
13 is amended by adding a definition to read:

14 Section 3. Definitions.

15 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
16 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
17 context clearly indicates otherwise:

18 \* \* \*

19 "Child." A person under 21 years of age.

1 \* \* \*

2 "Medically dependent or technologically dependent child." A  
3 child [eight years of age or younger] who because of a medical  
4 condition requires continuous therapeutic interventions or  
5 skilled nursing supervision which must be prescribed by a  
6 licensed physician and administered by or under the direct  
7 supervision of a licensed registered nurse.

8 \* \* \*

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.