

Proposed Legislation
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COSPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Dan Truitt
156th Legislative District

SUBJECT: Cosponsorship of Family Medical Leave Proposed Legislation

DATE: June 14, 2011

In the near future I plan to re-introduce former HB2278 from the 2009-2010 session, with a few changes. The original legislation simply extended federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) benefits to siblings, grandparents, and grandchildren. Even though it did not require employers to provide paid leave, it was still met with resistance from the business community and never reached the House floor.

In my version of the bill, language is clarified to ensure that no one would be able to "double dip" and take leave under the federal program and the state program. My version of the bill also limits leave under the state program to six weeks instead of the twelve weeks offered by the federal program and also states that the law only applies in cases where the patient has no living spouse, parent, or child.

When individuals receive at-home care by a family member, the patient and caregiver are able to spend more time together during a difficult time and fewer individuals end up relying on the state for their care. I believe that my bill will enable this to happen more often with a minimal impact on employers.

Please find attached a copy of the proposed legislation for your review.

If you wish to cosponsor this legislation, please contact my Harrisburg secretary, Gigi Baker, at 260-6164 or send an e-mail to gbaker@pahousegop.com.

Thank you for your support.