ROSEMARIE SWANGER

MEMBER 102ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

HARRISBURG OFFICE: P.O. BOX 202102 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2102 PHONE: (717) 787-2686 FAX: (717) 260-6514

<u>DISTRICT OFFICE:</u>
2232 LEBANON VALLEY MALL
LEBANON, PA 17042
PHONE: (717) 277-2101
FAX: (717) 277-2105

WWW.REPSWANGER.COM RSWANGER@PAHOUSEGOP.COM



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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

June 14, 2011

To:

All House Members

From:

Rep. RoseMarie Swanger

Subject:

Proposed Legislation

AMERICAN AND PENNSYLVANIA LAWS

FOR PENNSYLVANIA COURTS - SHARIAH LAW

I urge you to stand with me and co-sponsor my new legislation, "American and Pennsylvania Laws for Pennsylvania Courts." This legislation protects the individual constitutional rights of the people of Pennsylvania from the incursion of foreign laws, in cases in which the application of a foreign law or foreign legal doctrine would violate someone's constitutional rights.

Some 235 years ago, America's forefathers gathered in Philadelphia to debate and write a unique document. That single-page document announced the formation of a new country—one that would no longer find itself in the clutches of a foreign power. That document was the Declaration of Independence. Eleven years later, many of those same men gathered again to lay the foundation for how the United States of America was to be governed: The US Constitution, a form of government like no other by the people, of the people and for the people.

For more than two centuries, hundreds of thousands of courageous men and women have given their lives to protect America's sovereignty and freedom. American constitutional rights must be preserved in order to preserve unique American values of liberty and freedom.

State legislatures have a role to play in preserving constitutional rights and American values of liberty and freedom. If States did not have such a role to play, why then do states have constitutions which often mirror, echo and reinforce the US constitution?

America has unique values of liberty which do not exist in foreign legal systems, particularly Shariah Law. Included among, but not limited to, those values and rights are: Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of the Press, Due Process, Right to Privacy, Right to Keep and Bear Arms

Civil and Criminal Law Serve as the Bedrock for American Values: We are a nation of laws. Unfortunately, increasingly, foreign laws and legal doctrines—including and especially Shariah law--are finding their way into US court cases. Invoking Shariah

law, especially in family law cases, is a means of imposing an agenda on the American people while circumventing the US and state constitutions by using foreign laws which do not recognize our constitutional rights and liberties in US courts.

The potential impact of using foreign and international laws and legal doctrines in US courts on the liberty of ordinary American citizens are as profound as they are despairing. The embrace of foreign legal systems such as Shariah law, which is inherently hostile to our constitutional liberties, is a violation of the principles on which our nation was founded.

The founders of our nation believed that the United States of America and its individual states should never be subservient to any foreign power, country or legal system and that no foreign power, country or legal system should be allowed to encroach upon our rights under the Constitution.

The purpose of American and Pennsylvania Laws for Pennsylvania Courts is to preserve the sovereignty of the US and Pennsylvania and their respective Constitutions by preventing the encroachment of foreign laws and legal systems, such as Shariah law, that run counter to our individual constitutional liberties and freedoms.

By passing American and Pennsylvania Laws for Pennsylvania Courts, we will be preserving *individual* liberties and freedoms which become eroded by the encroachment of foreign laws and foreign legal doctrines, such as Shariah.

It is imperative that we safeguard our Constitutions' fundamentals, particularly the individual guarantees in the Bill of Rights, the sovereignty of our Nation and its people, and the principles of the rule of law—*American and Pennsylvania laws, not foreign laws.*

If you wish to join me in protecting the individual constitutional rights of the people of Pennsylvania from the incursion of foreign laws, please call my secretary, Lily Horst, 787-2686, or e-mail her at lhorst@pahousegop.com to be added to the list of co-sponsors.