

# MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 18, 2011  
**To:** All House Members  
**From:** Representative Tony DeLuca  
**Subject:** Co-sponsorship of Legislation: Parole Reform

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In the near future I will be introducing legislation prompted by the tragic shooting death of a police officer in my district. The shooting was committed by an individual who was on parole.

My legislation is designed to keep violent offenders where they belong – in prison and not on parole. For far too long, parole has been treated like a right and not the privilege that it actually is. There is no reason that offenders convicted of a crime of violence should be paroled on day one of their parole eligibility. If you are convicted of a crime of violence you need to be in jail. Under current law, an offender of a crime of violence (such as murdering a police officer) is eligible for parole upon completion of half their sentence. My legislation provides that such an offender serve eighty-five percent of their sentence prior to being eligible for parole. Furthermore, an offender who commits a second crime of violence would no longer be eligible for parole.

This legislation should have a deterrent effect on those individuals on parole who may be considering a second crime. It will act as a statement to those individuals on parole that they are expected to abide by their parole as well as the laws of the Commonwealth.

In the wake of the tragic death of the police officer in my district, this legislation will ensure that individuals like the shooter serve the entire sentence that he originally received.

If you would like to cosponsor this important bill, please contact Linda Dolfi at [ldolfi@pahouse.net](mailto:ldolfi@pahouse.net) or via phone 783-1011.