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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Ryan P. Aument 
DATE: July 22, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – Reporting of a “Serious Event” by Abortion Facilities

I would like to invite you to cosponsor legislation that will adopt a recommendation made during the House Health/Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Joint Public Hearing on the Health Oversight of Abortion Clinics.

At the March 2, 2011, public hearing, I asked Dr. Eli N. Avila, State Health Secretary, if he felt the \$1,000 a day fine for any facility that fails to report a serious event – either to the state or the patient – from the time of the serious event until the time a report is made was sufficient, in light of the Grand Jury Report which estimated Dr. Kermit Gosnell was paid as much as \$10,000 to \$15,000 a night. A “serious event” is when a patient receives some level of harm, requiring additional health care treatment. Such an event can range from a minor, temporary injury to death. Secretary Avila responded to my question by indicating that he believed the \$1,000 per day fine should be higher.

To that end, I plan on introducing legislation that will do the following:

- Increase the per day fine for any abortion facility that fails to report a serious event from \$1,000 to \$2,500.
- Ensure abortion facilities are required to report infections under the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (MCARE) Act.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Lori Clark at lclark@pahousegop.com or 705-7161.