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## House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

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## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All Members of the House of Representatives

From:

Representative John Hornaman

Date:

August 1, 2011

Subject:

Resolution to Encourage Congress to pass the Veterans' Heritage Firearms

Act of 2011

In the immediate future, I will introduce a resolution which will urge the United States Congress to pass the Veterans' Heritage Firearms Act of 2011.

American veterans, many of who served in World War II and the Korean War, acquired certain types of weapons during combat under rules of military conflict – guns known as "trophy" firearms - and are unable to legally register the weapons. Veterans who have kept their "trophy" firearms after combat could be charged with illegal possession of firearms which could lead to substantial prison time and would be a terrible insult to those who valiantly served their country, many of whom are from the "Greatest Generation." The Veterans' Heritage Firearms Act of 2011, which has bipartisan support in Congress; creates an amnesty period of 90 days during which veterans and their family members can register certain firearms in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record for legal ownership.

Chris Cox, executive director of the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action, which endorsed the legislation, said it best, "It is important to protect veterans and members of our armed forces from unnecessary prosecution and give them a viable path to comply with federal law." Mr. Cox also stated, "Those who fought to preserve our freedom should not be penalized for their desire to lawfully own firearms from the battlefield."

If you share my concern for veterans and wish to join me in co-sponsoring this important resolution, please contact Carla Walker at 717-772-2297 or e-mail cwalker@pahouse.net.