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MEMORANDUM

August 10, 2011

TO: All House Members

From: Representative Rick Saccone 

Re: Co-sponsorship: Amending the Vehicle Code

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation to amend the Judicial Code to remove any statute of limitations for Homicide by Vehicle While Driving Under the Influence and Accidents Involving Death or Personal Injury While Not Properly Licensed that result in death. Currently, a prosecution for those violations is barred after two years. This is inconsistent with other violations of the Vehicle Code where charges involving conduct resulting in a death can be brought at any time. Homicide by Vehicle and Accidents Involving Death currently have no limitation period.

There is no logical reason why Homicide by Vehicle while DUI should be barred after two years, yet Homicide by Vehicle can be prosecuted at any time. The individuals that violate these laws have not only shown little regard for the lives and wellbeing of others, but have also shown further disregard for the laws of our Commonwealth by operating a vehicle while intoxicated or by not possessing a license to operate the vehicle. As the law currently stands, they are basically rewarded for these actions by having a limitation placed on the time they can be prosecuted. This legislation will correct these inconsistencies.

If you would like to join me in sponsoring this bill, please contact Susan Peirson at (717)260-6122 or at speirson@pahousegop.com.