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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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Memorandum

To: All House Members
From: Representative Adam Ravenstahl *AR*
Subject: Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month
Date: September 28, 2011

I intend to introduce a resolution declaring December 2011 as Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month in Pennsylvania.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas. Too much carbon monoxide in the air you breathe can greatly diminish your ability to absorb oxygen, leading to serious and potentially fatal tissue damage. According to the New England Journal of Medicine, carbon monoxide poisoning is the most common cause of unintentional death from poison not only in the United States but worldwide. A 2007 study by the Centers for Disease Control found that Pennsylvania leads the nation in accidental carbon monoxide poisoning deaths.

I believe it is important to raise awareness on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning to prevent serious and often fatal injuries as it did when this silent killer claimed the lives of two of my distant relatives in 2009. If you are interested in adding your name as a co-sponsor of this resolution, please contact Dina White via e-mail at dwhite@pahouse.net.