

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 28, 2011

**To:** All House Members

**From:** Representative Tony DeLuca

**Subject:** Co-sponsorship of Legislation: Auditing of DPW Expenses

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In the near future, I will be introducing legislation to rectify a situation where the Auditor General was denied information from the Department of Public Welfare related to departmental expenditures for cash assistance.

As the Commonwealth's watchdog over both state and federal funds, the Auditor General has the responsibility to review such data in order to ensure legal and appropriate expenditures for the delivery of public assistance benefits.

The Auditor General is charged with ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent in an appropriate manner, therefore, must be provided with adequate information in order to do his job. After repeated attempts over a period of 13 months, the Secretary of the Department of Welfare has not responded to the request from the Auditor General for the delivery of information. While I am sensitive to the need for confidentiality on matters such as social security numbers and other personal data, I do not understand the denial of critical information needed to perform the work the Auditor General has been elected to do.

Therefore, I will be introducing a bill that will give the Auditor General access to information needed from the Department of Public Welfare in order to make a fair assessment and document that taxpayer money is or is not being spent appropriately.

So today, I ask you to join me in co-sponsoring a bill that addresses a very important, non-partisan issue that could affect three million subscribers in the western Pennsylvania region. If interested, please contact Linda Dolfi at [ldolfi@pahouse.net](mailto:ldolfi@pahouse.net) or 783-1011.