

WILLIAM F. KELLER, MEMBER
332 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202184
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2184
(717) 787-5774
FAX: (717) 705-2088

1531 SOUTH 2ND STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19147
PHONE: (215) 271-9190
FAX: (215) 952-1025

2103 SNYDER AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19145
PHONE: (215) 755-9185

E-MAIL: WKELLER@PAHOUSE.NET




House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

LABOR AND INDUSTRY, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative William F. Keller 
332 Main Capitol Building

DATE: October 4, 2011

SUBJECT: Reintroduction of Legislation – Warrantless Searches for Certain Individuals on Probation and Parole (Former HB 306)

In the very near future, I plan to re-introduced legislation to authorize law enforcement officers to conduct warrantless searches for individuals released on parole or probation for convictions of violent felonies or firearms offenses.

As you may be aware, I sponsored similar legislation in past legislative sessions, and I am dedicated to ensuring that offenders are fairly and effectively transitioned back into our local communities after serving a sentence for a violent or gun-related crime. I believe that this legislation is a necessary tool to do so – it will curb repeat offenses as well as provide the proper authority that parole and probation officers and other law enforcement officers need to carry out their duties in ensuring public safety.

During the last session, I worked with the House Judiciary Committee in order to narrow the bill and include suggestions by stakeholders. The resulting legislation calls for individuals convicted of felonies under Title 18, Part II, Article B (Offenses Involving Danger to the Person) or the Uniform Firearms Act to agree to warrantless searches by law enforcement officers as a condition of parole or probation. The language is based on existing statutes and practices from other states.

I hope you will join me in supporting this important bill. To be added as a co-sponsor, please contact Kelly Minito in my office at (717) 787-5774 or via email at kminito@pahouse.net.

Previous co-sponsors include: Baker, Barrar, Beyer, Brennan, D. Costa, P. Costa, Cruz, Farry, Geist, Gibbons, Grucela, Harper, Harris, Hess, Killion, McGeehan, Mensch, Miller, M. O'Brien, O'Neill, Pyle, Readshaw, Reichley, Sabatina, Scavello, Siptroth, K. Smith, Swanger, Vulakovich and Waters.