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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

October 4, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: KEVIN MURPHY, Member
113th Legislative District—Lackawanna County (part)

GENE DIGIROLAMO, Member
Republican Chairman, House Human Services Committee
18th Legislative District—Bucks County (part)

MARK COHEN, Member
Democratic Chairman, House Human Services Committee
202nd Legislative District, Philadelphia County (part)

RE: **Legislation providing for "Sober Houses"**

In the very near future, we intend to introduce legislation that provides for definitions and regulations of "sober" or "recovery" houses in Pennsylvania.

Specifically, this legislation amends the Administrative Code of 1929 (P.L. 177, No. 175) to give the authority to the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to develop regulations regarding housing programs—commonly referred to as "Recovery Houses"--that offer assistance to people with substance abuse problems.

This legislation aims to bring recovery houses under the same or similar regulations that other treatment facilities are guided by. Currently, recovery houses are not regulated by the Commonwealth. It is imperative that these facilities remain safe and healthy environments for those in recovery. Addiction is an epidemic; my aim is to bring continuity to all facilities that treat and house those seeking recovery, and create regulations that are sound and equal across the board with respect to substance abuse treatment.

If you'd like to join us in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Steph in my office via email: shardman@pahouse.net . Thank you.