

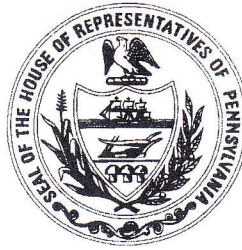
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**TO:** ALL MEMBERS

**FROM:** REP. PETER J. DALEY, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN  
HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** SMALL DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**DATE:** Oct. 24, 2011

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation that would establish a state level Small Disaster Assistance Program.

When a natural or manmade disaster strikes one of Pennsylvania's communities, it can cause significant damage as well as disruption for the individuals and businesses located there. As we've seen recently, these disasters may not qualify for federal disaster assistance programs.

I propose creating the Small Disaster Assistance Program, which would extend much-needed assistance to our communities that do not qualify for federal assistance. The program would be administered and coordinated by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency in collaboration with appropriate state agencies, such as PHFA, DCED and DPW. Under the program, homeowners, renters, small businesses, and municipalities would be eligible for grants and low interest loans to make necessary repairs, replace personal effects and property, and perform hazard mitigation.

Funding for the program would be derived from a surcharge on real property insurance at a rate of \$1 per \$100,000 of insured value. The money will be deposited in the Small Disaster Assistance Fund within the State Treasury.

I have introduced legislation similar to this for a number of years. In the 2009-10 Legislative Session the proposal was HB 2677 and was co-sponsored by: Reps. Belfanti, Caltagirone, Hennessey, Josephs, Kotik, Levdansky, Mahoney, Micozzie, Murt, Oliver, Pyle, Readshaw, Siptroth, Youngblood, Mundy and Beyer.

Please call Jamie Macon at 783-9333 (or e-mail, [jmacon@pahouse.net](mailto:jmacon@pahouse.net)) if you would like to cosponsor this legislation or would like to receive a draft copy.

OCT 25 2011