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**TO: All House Members**

**FROM: Representative Mike Fleck**

**DATE: October 26, 2011**

**SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship – Cyber Charter Reform**

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In the near future, I will be introducing a bill that will address the authorization and funding of cyber charter schools throughout Pennsylvania.

While several proposals have recently focused on the expansion and reform of charter and cyber charter schools, these bills do not adequately address funding, accountability, and the authorization of cyber charter schools. Pennsylvania currently has more than 50,000 students enrolled in cyber charter schools, while the regulation and guidance of these schools has gone unaddressed. Funding is based on the state share provided to the resident district of enrolled students; this amount is a supplement to the local share within a district and has no correlation to the actual cost of educating a student at a cyber charter school.

This legislation will allow the Commonwealth to offer an expanded role of cyber charter schools as an education alternative by appropriately providing funding to cyber charter schools based on the actual cost of education. Furthermore, it will strengthen the relationship between school districts and cyber charter schools by leveling the playing field between the two and mirroring accountability requirements. This will allow cyber charter schools to contribute to Pennsylvania's efforts to remain a national leader in public education.

Attached to this memorandum are key elements of the legislation. If you wish to join me in co-sponsoring this important piece of legislation, please contact Kelly Moyer-Roth in my office at via email at [kmoyer@pahousegop.com](mailto:kmoyer@pahousegop.com) or by calling 717-787-3335.