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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 3, 2011

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Chris Sainato

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Income eligibility for the Property Tax and Rent Rebate program

In the near future, I plan on introducing legislation that would amend the Taxpayer Relief Act relating to the income guidelines for the senior citizens' property tax and rent rebate assistance program.

As you may know, the current Property Tax and Rent Rebate (PTRR) program allowed individuals who received Railroad Retirement Tier 1 or Social Security benefits to exclude half of those types of income when determining their eligibility for PTRR. These financial requirements existed to permit nearly 180,000 senior citizens to be eligible for this rebate. However, one vital segment of our retirees were inadvertently overlooked; those Federal retirees who, because of their dates of employment, are ineligible for Social Security benefits.

Pennsylvania has one of the largest senior citizen populations in the country and we provide many benefits for our seniors. However, this is an inconsistency that needs correcting. If you share my concern and are interested in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please call Harry Bucher in my office at 787-3557, or e-mail at hbucher@pahouse.net.