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**TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS**

**FROM: REPRESENTATIVE OBERLANDER**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2011**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED LEGISLATION: OPTION OUT OF ABORTION COVERAGE IN STATE  
INSURANCE EXCHANGES**

Under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, each state beginning in 2014 will have in operation a health insurance exchange through which individuals and families can purchase insurance and, if eligible, can receive tax subsidies. This same act allows the state to enact laws prohibiting health insurance carriers that participate in their state's exchange from offering coverage for abortions. Twelve other states now have also opted out of offering this coverage.

Therefore, because taxpayer subsidies will be utilized to fund eligible individuals' and families' health insurance if purchased through the exchange, I am planning to introduce legislation which prohibits insurance carriers from offering coverage for elective abortions in the exchanges. The only exceptions are for the life of the mother, rape and incest. The legislation does not forbid, however, someone from purchasing coverage for elective abortions outside the exchange for a separate premium.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Missy Haldeman in my office at 772-9908 or via email at [mhaldeman@pahousegop.com](mailto:mhaldeman@pahousegop.com).

Thank you.