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MEMORANDUM

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Mike Hanna, Democratic Whip

DATE:

December 6, 2011

SUBJECT:

Co-Sponsorship- Grants for education & prevention programs on

rape and sexual assaults

In light of the allegations of sexual abuse of minors at Penn State, I will soon be introducing legislation that will appropriate \$5,000,000 to the Department of Public Welfare for grants for education and prevention programs on rape and sexual assaults. These funds will augment the 2010-2011 appropriation to DPW for these programs that are typically administered by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and its network of 51 rape crisis centers.

Child sexual abuse IS preventable. PCAR has been serving the Commonwealth on these issues for more than 35 years and has already helped thousands of children and other abused victims. We know that child sexual abuse is preventable with the proper education and awareness programs in place. But, Pennsylvania's rape crisis centers are seriously underfunded and unable to provide the sexual abuse prevention programming so sorely needed in our communities.

Please join me in sponsoring legislation that can truly have an impact on our kids and prevent them from falling victim to this devastating crime.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring the legislation, please contact Gayle Jones via e-mail at <u>gjones@pahouse.net</u> or via phone at 2-2283.