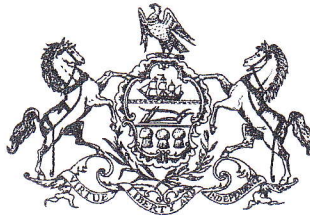


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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative W. Curtis Thomas
Date: December 20, 2011
Re: Co-sponsorship of Legislation – **Surety Bond Guarantee Program**

In the near future, I will reintroduce **H.B. 2142** of the 2009-2010 Legislation Session, which amended Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pa Consolidated Statutes, to create a Statewide Surety Bond Guarantee Program within the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The primary purpose of the surety bond program is to enable disadvantaged businesses that are certified by the Department of General Services to build capacity and competitively bid on certain state contracts.

This bill is part of a legislative package based on a report issued by the House Select Committee on Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Inclusion (pursuant to H.R. 78 of last session). Consequently, this proposal would amend the statute's definition of "disadvantaged business" to include small businesses owned by veterans, including service-disabled veterans.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this legislation by contacting my office at 717.783.0250 or by emailing my Legislative Assistant, Mary Gingrich at mgingric@pahouse.net.