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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

COMMITTEES

YW. X

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN INSURANCE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

February 6, 2012

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Robert W. Godshall, Chairman

House Consumer Affairs Committee

SUBJECT:

Co-sponsorship of Transportation Legislation - Distribution Restructure

I will be introducing legislation that proposes to modify the system of distribution of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's annual \$450 million payment to PennDOT authorized by Act 44 of 2007.

Under Act 44, there are statutory requirements for the distribution of those funds:

- 15 percent of the annual deposit into the Motor License Fund shall be distributed at the discretion of the Secretary of Transportation.
- \$5 million of the annual deposit shall be distributed to counties.
- \$30 million of the annual deposit shall be distributed to municipalities.

My legislation focuses on the remaining portion of the annual deposit that is not distributed according to those three requirements. My legislation would require that portion to be distributed only to counties that contain a portion of the Pennsylvania Turnpike within their geographic boundaries. The percentage of revenue distributed in this case shall be the percentile equivalent of the total toll revenue collected at interchanges within the respective counties.

Currently, the funds not distributed according to the three statutory requirements enumerated above are distributed based on needs-based formulas that are developed and subject to periodic revision based on consultation and collaboration among Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Rural Planning Organizations and PennDOT.

I believe that this portion of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's annual payment to PennDOT should be distributed only to the areas where that revenue is generated through tolling. People who are paying the tolls to support the Commission's obligation to PennDOT deserve to see their money go back into infrastructure improvements in their area.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Jane Hugendubler in my Harrisburg office at <u>jhugendu@pahousegop.com</u> or 783-6428.

RWG:GG:jh