

**DOYLE HEFFLEY, MEMBER  
122ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

PO BOX 202122  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2122  
PHONE: (717) 260-6139  
FAX: (717) 772-8418

LEHIGHTON BOROUGH ANNEX  
110 NORTH THIRD STREET  
LEHIGHTON, PA 18235  
PHONE: (610) 377-6363  
FAX: (610) 377-5675

2681 STATE ROUTE 903, UNIT 3  
PO BOX 1008  
ALBRIGHTSVILLE, PA 18218  
PHONE: (570) 722-8700  
FAX: (570) 722-8702



**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

**COMMITTEES:**  
GAME AND FISHERIES  
HUMAN SERVICES  
TRANSPORTATION  
TOURISM

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Legislation – County Commissioner Vacancy  
**TO:** All House Members  
**FROM:** Representative Doyle Heffley   
**DATE:** February 15, 2012

In the near future, I will introduce legislation that will allow voters to take part in the process of filling vacancies in the office of county commissioner.

Residents in each county in the Commonwealth elect three individuals to serve as county commissioners for a four-year term. Under current law, if one or more of the county elected county commissioners resigns from the office, the vacancy is filled by the court of common pleas for the remainder of the term. In other words, the court fills a vacancy in an elective office for practically an entire four-year term with no input from the residents of the county.

That is why I am introducing legislation that will, while retaining the initial court of common pleas appointment process, require counties to hold a subsequent special election to ultimately fill a vacancy for the remainder of the term of office. Similar requirements exist under a number of local government statutes. My proposed legislation will amend the County Code to establish this requirement.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Linda Schylaske at 717-260-6139 or [lschylas@pahousegop.com](mailto:lschylas@pahousegop.com).