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House of Representatives


Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

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Pennsylvania Animal Protection
Property Tax
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Justin Simmons
131st Legislative District 

DATE: February 14, 2012

RE: Cosponsorship of Legislation: **Cross-filing of School Board Candidates**

In the near future, I plan on introducing legislation to remove the ability of candidates for school board to cross-file nomination petitions. Currently, the Pennsylvania Election Code of 1937 allows candidates seeking certain judicial positions and the position of school board member to file nomination petitions for multiple political parties.

Historically, school board candidates have been permitted to cross-file because this position has been thought of as non-partisan. However, school board members once in office make very important decisions related to a school district's budget, and constituents are increasingly viewing this position as a partisan one. Often, voters are confused when a school board candidate receives the nomination of more than one party on the ballot, and eliminating their ability to cross-file could provide some clarity to voters in school board elections.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Lori McCauslin at 717-783-1673, or via e-mail at lmccausl@pahousegop.com.