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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All House Members

**FROM:** Representative Frank Farry  
Representative Gene DiGirolamo

**DATE:** February 27, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Resolution –EMS Federal Death Benefits

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution that will memorialize the U.S. Congress to enact H.R. 4018, which amends the federal Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act (PSOBA) of 1976.

Under the current federal statute, public safety officers who are killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty are afforded certain benefits. Unfortunately, these benefits are limited to emergency medical services (EMS) personnel employed by government units. My proposal memorializes the U.S. Congress to enact H.R. 4018 to extend these same benefits to the families of all EMS personnel who die in the line of duty.

On March 7, 2010, my emergency services colleague Danny McIntosh, a paramedic with the Bensalem Rescue Squad in Representative DiGirolamo's district, died while on duty following the chase of a mentally unstable man who fled medical treatment. Because the Bensalem Rescue Squad is a nonprofit ambulance service providing 911 response services to Bensalem Township but not part of the local government, the fallen paramedic's spouse, Bethann McIntosh, and his two children were denied federal death benefits under the program. U.S. H.R. 4018 would rectify this gap in coverage.

Please help me in sending a message to our Congressional delegation and the members on Capitol Hill that all our EMS responders deserve the same benefit for their dedication and willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for our communities.

If you wish to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Dawn Pelletier in my Harrisburg office at 260-6140 or via email at [dpelleti@pahousegop.com](mailto:dpelleti@pahousegop.com).