

RICK MIRABITO, MEMBER
115A EAST WING
P.O. BOX 202083
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2083
PHONE: (717) 772-1314
FAX: (717) 780-4751


800 WEST FOURTH STREET, SUITE G-02
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 17701
PHONE: (570) 321-1270
FAX: (570) 327-3719



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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COMMERCE
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WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/MIRABITO

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives
FROM: Representative Richard Mirabito 
DATE: April 30, 2012
SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship Request – Resolution Requesting the Reinstatement of the Pennsylvania State Police Aviation Patrol Unit IV

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution urging the Pennsylvania State Police and Governor Tom Corbett to reinstate the operations of the Pennsylvania State Police Aviation Patrol Unit IV at the Williamsport Regional Airport. Throughout its existence, the Montoursville Unit provided aid in over five hundred incidents each year and proved to be a vital service to Lycoming, Northumberland, Union, Snyder, Montour, Clinton, Tioga, Cameron, Potter, Bradford, and Sullivan counties. In addition, Unit IV has become instrumental in providing protective services during the Marcellus Shale natural gas well drilling operations.

Since the creation of the Pennsylvania State Police Aviation Division in 1968, seven Aviation Patrol Units were established throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The units provide service to Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers by conducting searches, criminal surveillance, homeland security missions, aerial photography, and transports. In addition, the Aviation Patrol Units are available to contribute to vehicle pursuits, marijuana eradication, or any additional service needed.

At the end of January 2012, services provided by the Pennsylvania State Police Aviation Patrol Unit IV were ceased and the responsibilities were transferred to the Aviation Patrol Unit II at the Hazleton Municipal Airport.

If you would like to join me in ensuring that efficient air patrol is provided to the citizens of this Commonwealth, please contact Jeannie Kosier at 717-772-1314 or JKosier@pahouse.net to cosponsor this resolution.