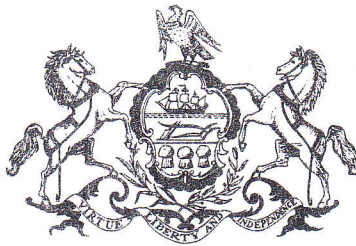


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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WOMEN'S HEALTH

To: All House Members

From: Representative Rosita Youngblood, Chair Gaming Oversight
Representative Mike O'Brien

Date: May 7, 2012

Re: Co-sponsorship Request

We are introducing a bill to assist in closing the gap to avoid insolvency of the Philadelphia School District. As we are all aware, school funding has been drastically cut across the Commonwealth and all of our communities are struggling with filling funding gaps. As many of you are also aware, the School District of Philadelphia has been struggling with not only reduced funding but recovery from previous choices that were made and has left the District on life support. We understand the need for reforms and efficiencies the District needs to do as they move forward and the new School Reform Commission (SRC) is taking steps to implement them.

Unfortunately, more funding is needed to keep the basic District operations going. It is projected the new course of the District, under the new SRC plan, should be able to see fiscal solvency in a few years. To do this the District requires more funds that either the State or the City can provide in today's fiscal situation.

Our legislation suspends the City of Philadelphia wage tax reduction as prescribed in Title 4 and the Taxpayer Relief Act and directs the funds received to the School District of Philadelphia. This redirection of funds is temporary, for 5 years. This is to enable the City and the School District time to correct their fiscal houses and make the appropriate adjustments to move forward. We want to make clear, we are not raising any taxes with this legislation, and we are just redirecting funds.

At the end of the day, we need to provide education to the children and not miss the opportunity to educate. We would like to ask you to support our solution and add your co-sponsorship to our bill.

Please contact John McDermott in the Harrisburg Office at 783-8098 or jmcdermo@pahouse.net with co-sponsorship.

MAY 08 2012