

May 11, 2012

Invitation from Transportation Chair Geist and Ag Chair Maher:

The nature and extent of equipment deployed for agriculture today is very different than years ago. Our state's Vehicle Code (Title 75, PACS) needs to be updated for the sake of public safety and agriculture.

The following five bills address a number of topics that we believe have broad support. Legislation on additional topics is also under consideration.

If you wish to cosponsor any of these bills, please notify Shelly Weaver not later than **Tuesday, May 15** either by email SWeaver@pahousegop.com or phone 717-783-1522.

We anticipate Agriculture Committee consideration on Monday, May 21.

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HB 2371 (Maher) - Legislation to define "agricultural commodity" and provide for transport of same throughout Pennsylvania's year-round harvest season. Current law uses undefined, vague terms and limits transport to May 20-Oct. 15.

HB 2372 (Hickernell) - Legislation that will address allowable daytime and nighttime maximum vehicle widths as well as required lighting and other safety measures appropriate to various widths and hours of operation.

HB 2373 (Brooks) - Legislation to increase the distance a multipurpose agricultural vehicle can travel between farms to five miles – the current limitation is two miles.

HB 2374 (Marshall) - Legislation to clarify certain agricultural vehicle registration requirements and increase the distance of use from 25 to 50 miles.

HB 2375 (Keller) - Legislation to authorize students to drive their tractors to school on a designated day - The current law limits such tractor travel between farms only.

John A. Maher
Member, House of Representatives
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