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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 17, 2012

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Chris Sainato, Democratic Chairman
Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Including Civil Air Patrol in Emergency
and Law Enforcement Personnel Death Benefits Act.

In the near future, I plan on introducing legislation to extend the death benefit that is currently available to other emergency responders to members of the Pennsylvania Civil Air Patrol.

The Emergency and Law Enforcement Personnel Death Benefits Act provides a state benefit of \$100,000 (annually adjusted using the Consumer Price Index) to emergency responders for deaths related to the performance of their duties. Pennsylvania Civil Air Patrol members who participate in emergency response situations and provide the Commonwealth with Homeland Security assistance are not currently covered under this Act.

The Civil Air Patrol is a federally supported, non-profit organization that serves as an official civilian auxiliary arm of the United States Air Force. The Civil Air Patrol's general responsibilities include providing emergency services such as search and rescue as well as disaster relief operations. Furthermore, the Civil Air Patrol has also been tasked with homeland security missions and performs non-auxiliary missions for various governmental and private agencies such as local law enforcement and the American Red Cross.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please call Harry Bucher in my office at 787-3557, or e-mail at hbucher@pahouse.net.