

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All House Members

**FROM:** Representative Frank Dermody  
Democratic Leader

**DATE:** May 8, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Marcellus Compact: Proposed legislation repealing local zoning preemption language in Act 13

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In the near future I will be introducing a bill to amend Act 13 of 2012, the Marcellus Shale law passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Tom Corbett in February. My bill, part of the Marcellus Compact legislative package, will restore the rights of municipalities to determine how drilling activities can be zoned in their communities.

Act 13 unduly restricts the rights of local communities to regulate drilling activities. Without local control, residents in these communities will be left with no power to prevent a drilling rig or compressor station from being built next to a school, day care center, playground or church. In essence, Act 13 allows the multi-billion-dollar, out-of-state natural gas industry to ride roughshod over Pennsylvania residents, families and whole communities. Township officials in the Marcellus Shale region – and elsewhere across the state – are widely opposed to these attempts to usurp their authority. Indeed, several municipalities have filed suit against the commonwealth to stop this wrongful intrusion. My bill would fix this flaw in Act 13 by repealing the law's zoning preemption language and putting those decisions back in the hands of local officials where they belong.

The Marcellus Compact is a six-bill legislative package that fixes the flawed, industry-friendly Marcellus Shale law, known as Act 13 of 2012. The Marcellus Compact is our promise to put the interests of Pennsylvania taxpayers, workers and families first – unlike Act 13, which is a sweetheart deal for the multi-billion-dollar oil and gas industry.

Please join me in sponsoring this important legislation, which makes Pennsylvania communities and residents a top priority. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Maryann Eckhart in my office at 717-787-3566 or by email at [MEckhart@pahouse.net](mailto:MEckhart@pahouse.net).