

**WILL TALLMAN, MEMBER  
193<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

**CAPITOL OFFICE**

**PO Box 202193  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2193  
PHONE: (717) 783-8875  
FAX: (717) 787-7588**

**DISTRICT OFFICE**

**1157 EICHELBERGER STREET  
HANOVER, PA 17331  
PHONE: (717) 633-1721  
TOLL FREE: (877) 480-9525  
FAX: (717) 787-7588**



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG**

**COMMITTEES**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH  
EDUCATION  
LIQUOR CONTROL  
VETERANS AFFAIRS &  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**WEBSITE:**

**WWW.REPWILLTALLMAN.COM**

**E-MAIL:**

**WTALLMAN@PAHOUSEGOP.COM**

**Memorandum**

**Date:** June 1, 2012  
**Subject:** Drug and Alcohol Use by Parents  
**To:** All House Members  
**From:** Representative Will Tallman

---

I am preparing to introduce legislation that would make the use of drugs and alcohol by a parent a more prominent consideration at a permanency hearing for a dependent child.

This legislation will require that courts determine whether the use of alcohol or drugs by the parent of a dependent child places the health, safety or welfare of the child at risk. Furthermore, the failure of a drug test or the refusal to participate in a drug test requested by the county Children and Youth Agency will constitute prima facie evidence of alcohol or drugs that places the child at risk.

My legislation included language to provide specific grounds to terminate parental rights for the repeated and continue abuse of alcohol or drugs that places the health, safety or welfare of the child at risk, when the drug abuse cannot or will not be remedied by the parent.

My bill would amend Title 23 (Domestic Relations) with respect to the termination of parental rights and Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) with respect to consideration at the permanency hearing of a parent's drug or alcohol use.

I hope that you will consider cosponsoring this legislation. If you would like to do so, please contact Jodi Addington in my office at [jaddingt@pahousegop.com](mailto:jaddingt@pahousegop.com) or 783-8875