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MEMORANDUM

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff

DATE:

June 19, 2012

SUBJECT:

Co-sponsor for Use and Display of Commonwealth Flag

After 9/11, legislation was made into law that would allow deceased firefighters and police officers to have the Pennsylvania flag draped on their caskets. Inquiries have been made regarding expanding to other first responders and law enforcement personnel to clarify those entitled to this honor.

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation amending Act 276 of 1913, which authorizes the display of the State flag at funeral processions of deceased law enforcement personnel and other emergency service entities.

Act 276 of 1913 includes only volunteer or municipal police departments and other emergency service members. My proposal will extend this honor to include the following entities:

- Sheriffs
- Deputy Sheriffs
- Officers of a correctional institution, county jail, or prison
- State law enforcement officials
- Local law enforcement officials
- Firefighters
- Emergency medical services personnel
- Fire Policemen
- Certified hazardous material response team members

I believe it is both fitting and appropriate that we extend this honor to those individuals who serve as first responders and law enforcement personnel, but are not currently included under the act.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Amy Noel anoel@pahousegop.com in my Harrisburg office at 783-1918.