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## House of Representatibes

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

DATE:

July 16, 2012

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative RoseMarie Swanger

SUBJECT:

Co-sponsorship of Legislation

FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN LAW AND

**GOVERNMENT DISPLAY ACT** 

In the near future, I plan on introducing the Foundations of American Law and Government Display Act, which would create a display comprised of historical documents that are considered the foundation and inspiration for American law and government. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions would be permitted to place these displays in public buildings and courthouses. The legislation would prohibit the use of state funds or taxpayer dollars to create and install these displays while allowing the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions to accept private donations for the creation and installation of these displays.

The Foundations of American Law and Government Display would consist of the following documents:

- The Mayflower Compact
- The Ten Commandments
- The Declaration of Independence
- The Magna Carta
- Words of the "Star-Spangled Banner"
- The National Motto "In God We Trust"
- Preamble and Declaration of Rights in the PA Constitution
- The Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution
- A description of the symbol "Lady Justice"

There is a need to educate and inform the public about the history and background of American law, and state and local government buildings are an ideal forum to display these historical documents. If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Lily Horst at 717-787-2686, or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:lhorst@pahousegop.com">lhorst@pahousegop.com</a>.