THE STATE CAPITOL **SENATE BOX 203028** ROOM 9 EAST WING HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3028 PHONE: (717) 787-3817 FAX: (717) 783-1900 EMAIL: mwaugh@pasen.gov

web: www.senatorwaugh.com



Senate of Pennsylvania MIKE WAUGH **SENATOR**

MEMORANDUM

COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & RECREATIONAL

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS.

VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY

CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION FARM SHOW COMMISSION **FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**

SENATE FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES CAUCUS,

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN

SEP 18 2012

VICE CHAIRMAN

DEVELOPMENT **URBAN AFFAIRS & HOUSING**

PREPAREDNESS

APPROPRIATIONS

TO:

September 17, 2012

All Senators

FROM:

DATE:

Senator Mike Wat

SUBJECT:

Request to co-sponsor legislation

Certification of Health for Animal Exhibition

I am introducing legislation to amend Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes regarding the documentation required to exhibit animals at livestock shows.

Under current law, a person may not bring an animal to an exhibition (including county fairs and the PA Farm Show) unless the person has an established "veterinarian-client-patient relationship." The Department of Agriculture has enforced this by requiring an animal exhibitor to fill out a form self-certifying that their animal has such a relationship with a veterinarian.

In light of the fact that many, if not most, animal exhibitors also have a health certificate for their animals (which is signed by a veterinarian certifying the health of the animal), I have heard from a number of exhibitors questioning the need for providing the separate veterinarianclient-patient relationship form. This legislation would clarify that an animal health certificate can be accepted in lieu of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship form. The Department of Agriculture supports this proposal.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Debbie Clark in my office at 787-3817 or dclark@pasen.gov.