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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

September 19, 2012

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Robert L. Freeman *R.L.F.*

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Memo—Joint and Several Liability Exception for a Minor with a Beneficial Interest

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would amend the joint and several liability law to protect the rights of all children when they are involved in a civil lawsuit.

Earlier this session we passed Senate Bill 1131, which repealed the doctrine of joint and several liability. Although a few exceptions were drafted into the bill there was one glaring oversight I believe we need to address. An exception protecting all the rights of children was not written into the law. In light of the Jerry Sandusky scandal and defective toys manufactured in China, I will be introducing legislation upon our return this September amending the joint and several liability law to preserve all the rights for children whenever they have a beneficial interest in a civil lawsuit.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Danielle in my office by e-mail at dbrown@pahouse.net or by telephone at 783-3815.

RLF/blm