ROSEMARIE SWANGER

MEMBER
102ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

HARRISBURG OFFICE: P.O. BOX 202102 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2102 PHONE: (717) 787-2686 FAX: (717) 260-6514

DISTRICT OFFICE: 2232 LEBANON VALLEY MALL LEBANON, PA 17042 PHONE: (717) 277-2101 FAX: (717) 277-2105

WWW.REPSWANGER.COM RSWANGER@PAHOUSEGOP.COM



House of Representatives Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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Date:

October 5, 2012

To:

All House Members

From:

Rep RoseMarie Swanger

Subject:

Co-sponsor Memo

DESIGNATING THE "APPLE" AS THE OFFICIAL FRUIT OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the request of a third grade class at an elementary school in my district, I would like to introduce legislation to designate the 'apple' as the official fruit of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

At this fall-time of the year when apples are abundant and apple festivals are thriving all over Pennsylvania, it seems like an appropriate time for this designation.

Here are some appetizing attributes of apples:

- Apples are grown in every county in Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania apple production ranks in the top ten nationally
- About 10 million bushels of apples are produced annually
- About one-third of Pennsylvania's apples are grown for fresh market sales
- Apples are nutritious and are a good source of fiber
- The world's largest apple processor is located in southcentral Pennsylvania
- 21,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania grows apples which contributes more than \$700 million to our state's economy
- Most importantly, an apple a day keeps the doctor away

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Lily Horst, 787-2686, or via e-mail, lhorst@pahousegop.com.