PATTY H. KIM, MEMBER 103RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT G01 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING P.O. BOX 202103 HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2103 (717) 783-9342 FAX: (717) 787-8957

8 SOUTH FRONT STREET STEELTON, PENNSYLVANIA 17113-2319 (717) 986-1673 FAX: (717) 986-1677



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MEMORANDUM

From: Representative Patty Kim

To: All House members

Subject: City Revitalization and Improvement Zone Program

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would amend the law that provided for the establishment of the City Revitalization and Improvement Zone (CRIZ) program in order to remove the prohibition on participation of a city that has had a receiver appointed under the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act (Act 47 of 1987).

The CRIZ program provides critical opportunities to those third class cities, with a population of at least 30,000, to spur new growth, revive downtowns, and create jobs for residents through the development of vacant, desolate, underutilized or abandoned space.

The current law excludes a city that has had a receiver appointed under Act 47 from eligibility for CRIZ designation. As many of you may recall, the City of Harrisburg in my legislative district, was under State receivership at the time the CRIZ program was established last year. Understandably perhaps, the crafters of the program wished to exclude the city from program eligibility.

However, Harrisburg is no longer under State receivership. Therefore, I believe it is unfair to restrict the city, which faces unique challenges as the state capital, from permanent participation in a program which has the great potential to stimulate the local economy and improve the lives of its residents and visitors alike.