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**MEMORANDUM**

To: All House Members  
From: Representative Stephen Kinsey  
Date: March 2, 2017  
Subject: **Firearm Safety Training**

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In the near future, I will introduce legislation to require firearm safety training in the Commonwealth.

My legislation requires any individual who would like to purchase a firearm to first receive safety training from an instructor who has been certified by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). Purchasers would then be required to take a written objective test covering firearm laws and safety. If an individual passes the test, a purchaser would be provided a firearm safety certificate which would be valid for five years. If an individual fails to pass the test, he or she may retake the test 24 hours later after receiving additional firearm training from the instructor. It is important to note that law enforcement officials would be exempt from these requirements.

It is my belief that it is not unreasonable to require individuals who obtain firearms to have a basic familiarity with and understanding of their use and operation. Furthermore, we should also ensure that firearm owners understand how to safely store and handle the weapons, as well as the fundamental legal aspects of firearm possession, carry and use, self-defense, and the use of deadly force. By requiring firearm safety certificates prior to purchasing firearms, we can promote safe and responsible firearm ownership in the Commonwealth and, thereby, limit the number of unintentional injuries and deaths that result from the unsafe storage and handling of firearms.

I hope you will join me in cosponsoring this legislation. Thank you in advance for your consideration.