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Senate of Pennsylvania

December 1, 2010

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Dominic Pileggi 

RE: Co-sponsorship of Legislation to Establish a
Do-Not-Call List for Political Robo-Calls

I plan to introduce legislation to amend the Telemarketing Registration Act to ban the use of automatic dialing recorded message systems (robo-calls) by political candidates, parties, committees and other political organizations. The ban includes calls by so-called "soft money" political organizations regulated by the Internal Revenue Code to accept contributions to influence the selection, nomination, election or appointment of an individual.

Current law allows Pennsylvania resident to sign up for the Pennsylvania Do-Not-Call List to prevent unwanted calls from telemarketers. However, all calls - including robo-calls - made on behalf of political groups or candidates are exempt. This legislation would establish a new Do-Not-Call List only for political robo-calls. Other types of political calls would not be affected.

This legislation will be similar to Senate Bill 34 (printer's number 18) from the 2009-10 legislative session.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Michelle Kreiger at mkreiger@pasen.gov or 787-4712.

DP/ea/nt