

# **MEMORANDUM**

January 7, 2010

**TO:** All House Members

**FROM:** Rep. Tony DeLuca

**SUBJECT:** Proposed legislation – homicide by vehicle during a “hot pursuit”, (HB 646 of 2009)

I will be re-introducing a bill amending Title 75 by creating a specific offense of “Homicide by vehicle while fleeing or attempting to elude police officer”. My proposal creates a specific offense for anyone who causes the death of another person while fleeing police.

Several years ago, in Pittsburgh, a terrible accident was caused by an individual who was trying to elude police and causing a chase. Two innocent people were killed and four others were critically injured, all because someone engaged police in hot pursuit. Afterwards, it was shown that the penalty for those homicides is currently open to interpretation.

Therefore I feel it is necessary and prudent to create, in Statute, a specific offense, a second degree felony, clearly defined, and requiring a sentence of not less than five years when a death occurs as a result of fleeing police.

If you wish to add your support as a co-sponsor of this bill, please contact my office via email at [chaldi@pahouse.net](mailto:chaldi@pahouse.net). Thank you.