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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

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Memorandum

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Jeff Pyle

60th Legislative District

RE:

Proposed Legislation:

The Preservation and Protection Right to Keep and Bear Arms in Motor Vehicles Act.

(Previously HB 2049, 2009-2010)

DATE:

December 15, 2010

In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation to protect an individual's right to keep and bear arms by ensuring that no public or private entity may prohibit someone with a licenses to carry concealed firearms (or a person who is exempt from such licensing) from possessing a legally possessed firearm locked inside a private motor vehicle in a parking area if the person is lawfully in such area.

This legislation, modeled after Florida's law on the subject and is substantially similar to the laws in Georgia, Alaska, Kentucky, Mississippi, Kansas and Minnesota and pending legislation in Alabama, Louisiana, Montana, Tennessee, Utah and Virginia.

My legislation would prohibit public and private entities from taking any action against a person who legally keeps a firearm locked in their vehicle and prohibits them from violating the privacy rights of such a person. Further, the bill would prohibit employers from conditioning employment on a person possessing a license to carry a concealed firearm.

An employer would not be permitted to prohibit an employee, customer or invitee from entering a parking area because the person's vehicle contained a firearm. Finally, an employer may not discriminate against an employee or expel a customer or invited from the premises when the person is legally keeping a firearm locked in their vehicle.

The bill would make exceptions for places where activities on the premises involve national defense, aerospace or domestic security or the manufacture, use, storage or transportation of explosives. Also, this legislation would not apply in places where possession of a firearm is prohibited under federal or state law, including school property and correctional facilities. Finally, the legislation would grant employers immunity from liability under certain conditions.

I urge you to join me in this effort to ensure that the words in our constitution under Article I, Section 21 continue to have meaning – that the right to keep and bear arms "shall not be questioned." If you are interested in joining me and supporting this legislation, please contact my Harrisburg Legislative Assistant, Tracey Mattern, at 783-5327 or via email @ tmattern@pahousegop.com. Thank you in advance for your support.

JPP:tm