

GARTH D. EVERETT, MEMBER
84th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
PO Box 202084
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2084
Phone: (717) 787-5270
Fax: (717) 772-9958
E-Mail: gverrett@pahousegop.com
Website: www.RepEverett.com

DISTRICT OFFICES:
Penn Hills Plaza, 21 Kristi Road, Suite 2
Muncy, PA 17756
Phone: (570) 546-2084 or (570) 327-2084
Fax: (570) 546-5220

Tiadaghton Valley Mall, Room 105
701 Allegheny Street, Box 4
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Phone: (570) 398-4476
Fax: (570) 398-5963



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

Environmental Resources and Energy
Game and Fisheries
Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Garth Everett, State Representative
84th Legislative District

DATE: January 31, 2011

SUBJECT: Drug Testing Public Assistance Recipients

On January 5, 2011, I circulated a memo re-introducing legislation from last Session that would require applicants of welfare cash assistance to submit to drug testing before being approved for benefits. Since then the legislation has been "tweaked" and I soon intend to introduce a similar version that will focus on those with previous felony drug convictions.

Under this new proposal, which would amend the Public Welfare Code, any individual with a felony drug conviction within a five-year period prior to applying for benefits would be required to submit to drug testing before any benefits could be approved. This proposal would also enable DPW to randomly test 20 percent of these individuals every six months during the time in which they would be eligible for the testing program. Those who refuse testing or fail a test would be subject to benefit sanctions as set forth in the bill.

Those who have already cosponsored will remain cosponsors unless my office is told otherwise: BAKER, BARRAR, BOBACK, BOYD, CLYMER, COSTA D, COX, CUTLER, DEASY, DENLINGER, FLECK, GEIST, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GRELL, GROVE, HAHN, HARHAI, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN, KELLER, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KULA, LAWRENCE, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MARSICO, METZGAR, MILLARD, MILLER, MILNE, MURT, ONEILL, PAYNE, PICKETT, PYLE, RAPP, REED, REICHLEY, ROAE, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIMMONS, SMITH K, SONNEY, STEVENSON, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH

Please join me in sponsoring this legislation by contacting Chanin Zwing at 787-5270 or via e-mail at czwing@pahousegop.com. Thank you.

GDE/clz