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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

MEMORANDUM

COMMITTEES

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN

JUDICIARY

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TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Thomas C. Creighton

DATE:

February 3, 2011

SUBJECT:

Cosponsorship - Commonwealth Project Notification Act

In the near future, I will be introducing the Commonwealth Project Notification Act. This legislation will require an "executive agency" to hold a public hearing when such agency either buys or builds a building worth at least \$100,000. An "executive agency" is the governor and the departments and other agencies of the Commonwealth.

It is my belief that when the Department of Corrections, for example, is about to build a prison, that the public should be alerted to that fact. Further, the public should be given an opportunity to comment and to ask questions.

Additionally, this legislation requires that if the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole leases a facility for its use, the board must hold a public hearing as well. The public must be given an opportunity to voice its concerns and to inquire about the nature of the facility.

It is my belief that government should be open and transparent. This legislation will enable citizens and public servants to establish a dialogue before facilities are opened in a community.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Suzanne Stuck at sstuck@pahousegop.com or 787-3879.