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House of Representatives

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HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Neal P. Goodman

DATE: February 22, 2011

RE: Income Tax Return Voluntary Check-Off for the Veterans' Emergency Assistance Program (former HB 1354)

In the near future, I will be re-introducing legislation from last session to establish a voluntary check-off on the Pennsylvania income tax return whereby an individual may contribute to the Veterans' Emergency Assistance Program.

Established in 1988, the Veterans' Emergency Assistance Program provides financial aid in an emergency and on a temporary basis (not to exceed three months in a 12-month period) to Pennsylvania veterans and their beneficiaries for the necessities of life, such as food, shelter, fuel and clothing. The current level of funding is inadequate and has been the subject of budget cuts in recent years. I believe that establishing a voluntary check-off on the Pennsylvania income tax return, similar to the Military Family Relief Assistance Program check-off, will provide a much-needed additional source of funding.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Linda Reed at lreed@pahouse.net or 787-2798.