## SCOTT CONKLIN, MEMBER

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## **MEMORANDUM:**

**DATE:** March 1, 2011

**TO:** All Members of the House of Representatives

**FROM:** Representative Scott Conklin

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of the Well Operation Response Team Act

In the near future, I will introduce a measure that will establish the Well Operation Response Team Act to enhance emergency response if needed at oil and gas wells in Pennsylvania.

My legislation would be similar, yet Pennsylvania-specific, to that of U.S. Senator Robert Casey. D-Pa., called the Faster Action Safety Team Emergency Response Act, or FASTER. Specifically, my bill would require the Secretary of Labor and Industry to develop regulations that would require an employee, trained in emergency response, to be present at the well during exploration and drilling, require a certified response team to be based within one hour of travel time from a well site, require contact with local emergency responders within 15 minutes and the Department of Labor and Industry within one hour of the beginning of an emergency, and provide annual training for emergency personnel related to well-site hazards.

Oil and gas well operators also would have to file an annual report with the department of detailed information outlining the work of a response at each of their wells.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Jim Moser via-e-mail at jmoser@pahouse.net.