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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Ken Smith

DATE: March 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution Designating April 28, 2011 as Workers' Memorial Day

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution designating April 28, 2011, as "Workers' Memorial Day" in Pennsylvania. For many years, this day has been recognized in honor of friends, families, and colleagues who have lost their lives or suffered injuries or illnesses as a result of workplace accidents.

According to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2009 alone, over 4,300 workers nationwide were killed in an accident at work. Experts estimate that at least 50,000 more fatalities resulted from illnesses or diseases acquired in the workplace. In addition, well over three million workers were reported to have suffered injuries or become ill due to working conditions. While these statistics have varied from year to year, data continues to demonstrate that the number of workplace-related deaths amounts to tens of thousands annually, and workplace-related injuries in the millions.

Pennsylvania's recognition of Workers' Memorial Day on April 28th remembers our lost and injured workers and asserts the value of each and every member of our workforce. My resolution commemorating this event will extend our sympathies to families and friends of workers who have been lost, and offer hope and encouragement by reaffirming our commitment to safe working environments.

I hope that you will join me in honoring these men and women. If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Julie via email at jyarrish@pahouse.net.