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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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## MEMORANDUM

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

**FROM:** Representative Kevin Murphy, 113<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Lackawanna County

**DATE:** April 12th, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Co-Sponsorship of Resolution – COBRA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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I will soon be introducing a resolution to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) in 2011. This federal legislation was signed on April 7, 1985, and granted many employees the right to continue their health care coverage after separation from an employer.

The protections established by COBRA are significant in that they ensure that qualifying workers and their families are not simply dropped from much needed group health insurance policies after leaving a job or during other life events, such as divorce or the death of a working family member. Instead, the COBRA program gives workers and their families the option to continue their health insurance at their own expense for up to 18 months or more. In the last 25 years, the Department of Labor estimates that nearly 50 million workers and families have relied on this coverage.

I hope that you will join me in co-sponsoring this important resolution. If you would like to be added, please contact Steph in my office at [shardman@pahouse.net](mailto:shardman@pahouse.net).

Thank you.