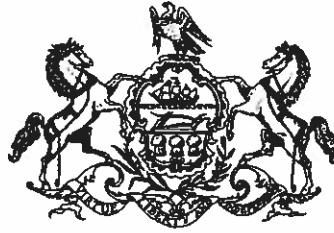


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Dante Santoni Jr., Democratic Chairman
House Liquor Control Committee

DATE: April 13, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship: Special Occasion Permit Legislation

In the near future, I will be introducing legislation amending the Liquor Code, Act. 21 of 1951, pertaining to Special Occasion Permits and their applications to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

My legislation would amend the Liquor Code by creating a Special Occasion License for non-profit organizations with applicable fees and application to the PLCB. Currently, the entities eligible for special occasion permits are random and inconsistent. Furthermore, legislative exceptions to add new entities not already listed are frequently carved out. As such, this legislation would correct this practice by opening Special Occasion Licenses to include all non-profit organizations strictly for the purposes of fund raising. Subsequently, all eligible Special Occasion Licensees may only be issued a permit for use during a calendar year. Each individual permit may only be used for six nonconsecutive days or up to ten consecutive days. This legislation would also provide for increased enforcement through licensee notification to the Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE), increased fines and penalties, granting jurisdiction over special occasion licenses to Administrative Law Judges and allowing BLCE to cite when necessary.

By amending the Liquor Code in this fashion, it is my hope to change how special occasion permits are administered to a more fair and balanced approach for both the PLCB and the state's non-profit organizations. This bill will also serve as a tool to further protect our communities from problem permittees through increased enforcement.

If you wish to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Deb in my office at doswalt@pahouse.net or 783.3290. Thank you.