

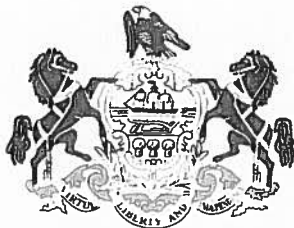
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BRAD ROAE**

6TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

PO BOX 202006
ROOM 162 EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2006
717-787-2353

900 WATER STREET
DOWNTOWN MALL
MEADVILLE, PA 16335
814-336-1136

109 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET
TITUSVILLE, PA 16354
814-827-6054



House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

COMMITTEES

INSURANCE
STATE GOVERNMENT
EDUCATION
HUMAN SERVICES

CAUCUSES

PRO-LIFE CAUCUS
SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS
FIREFIGHTER'S CAUCUS
LIBERTY CAUCUS
GAS AND OIL CAUCUS

broae@pahousegop.com
www.RepRoae.com

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 21, 2011
TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Brad Roae *BR*
RE: Proposed Legislation

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that will prohibit smoking in private residences in multiunit housing that are subsidized by government funds and under the management of a housing authority.

It is well known that exposure to second hand smoke is a serious health hazard and can result in lung cancer and cardiac disease in non-smokers, and can cause other serious cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. In multi-unit housing, tobacco smoke from residential units and areas of shared access can infiltrate the air of all residential units.

Public housing serves several vulnerable populations, including elderly persons, children and persons with disabilities. Smoking in multiunit rental housing is particularly troublesome because second hand smoke affects these vulnerable individuals, many who already have pre-existing health issues.

In addition to health concerns, second hand smoke impacts costs in several ways. The most obvious is increased health care costs for non-smokers who suffer from respiratory and cardiac diseases. Smoking in rental units results in significantly higher building maintenance costs, including cleaning and replacement expenses when a tenant moves. The use of cigarettes and other combustible tobacco products have been found to be a leading cause of residential fires which can impact costs for insurance and liability.

Also, tenants with pre-existing conditions aggravated by second hand smoke may file complaints under disability laws such as the Fair Housing Act.

In 2009, the Department of Public Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a memorandum that strongly encourages Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to implement non-smoking policies in their multiunit public housing.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Tierna via e-mail at ttuckey@pahousegop.com