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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg COMMITTEES:
GAME AND FISHERIES
HUMAN SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION
TOURISM

MEMORANDUM

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Doyle Heffle

122nd Legislative District

SUBJECT:

Illegal aliens in possession of ACCESS cards

DATE:

September 29, 2011

A police officer serving in my legislative district recently recounted the following at a public hearing of the House State Government Committee. He reported that in the course of stopping a vehicle for speeding the driver admitted to being an illegal alien. The driver was also in possession of a number of ACCESS cards from Pennsylvania and other states. The officer testified that he contacted the Department of Public Welfare and was informed that he must return the ACCESS cards to the illegal alien.

This is disturbing and unacceptable. Illegal aliens are not eligible for the benefits that are accessible through an ACCESS card and they should not be permitted to carry these cards and thereby have the ability to use benefits that have been granted to other individuals who are legally eligible for such benefits.

That is why I intend to introduce legislation that will explicitly prohibit any illegal alien from possessing, using or attempting to use an ACCESS card or other electronic benefit transfer card. Any person who violates this prohibition commits a felony of the third degree.

Please join me in cosponsoring this important piece of legislation. If you wish to cosponsor, please contact Linda Schylaske at lschylas@pahousegop.com or call 717-260-6139.