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COMMITTEE

HEALTH, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All House Members

From:

Representatives John Myers and Dwight Evans

Date:

April 4, 2012

Re:

Repeal of Voter ID Law

In the near future, we plan to introduce legislation repealing the Voter ID Law, Act 18 of 2012.

As you may know, proponents of the Voter ID Law proclaimed that it was necessary to prevent voter fraud. However, numerous independent fact finders, including CBS News, were unable to find a single case where an individual was convicted of a crime involving voter fraud in the last five years, despite an exhaustive search of court documents and other records.

Although the bill requires that free IDs be provided to indigent voters who do not possess the necessary identification, the fact remains that this law puts onerous barriers to voting and is aimed at disenfranchising our most vulnerable citizens: the elderly, the young and the poor. At best, this law is a costly, inefficient and superfluous solution searching for a non-existent problem. At worst, it is a throwback to the days of poll taxes and literacy tests which were designed to discriminate against poor and minority voters, forcing honest, hard-working Pennsylvanians to travel great distances to obtain identification to exercise a fundamental right deeply entrenched in the marrow of our shared history as a republic.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Peggy Paumer at (717) 787-6405 or via email at ppaumer@pahouse.net.