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House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

May 18, 2012

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E-MAIL: jharhart@pahousegop.com WEBSITE: julieharhart.com

TO:

All House Members

SUBJECT: Internet Dating Disclosure and Safety Awareness Legislation

FROM:

Representative Julie Harhart

I am planning to reintroduce House Bill 2071 from last session known as the Internet Dating Disclosure and Safety Awareness Act.

This proposal, which has been under consideration in a number of other states, would require online dating services which do business in Pennsylvania to prominently disclose on their sign-up pages whether they conduct criminal history background screenings on their members.

I believe the need for this type of protective legislation is highly imperative. A sexual assault conviction in a Philadelphia case involving Match.com clients point to the fact participants in online dating need to be well informed about strangers they meet through these commercial services. Although this proposal is not a panacea for all the dangers that may accompany participation in online dating, it is a strong step in the right direction.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Michele Warren at mwarren@pahousegop.com or call my office at 772-5398.

JH/mmgw