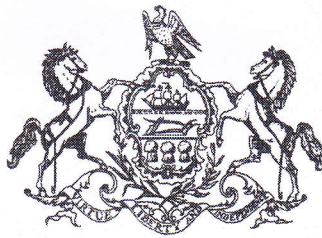


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MEMORANDUM

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DATE: August 9, 2012

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Lawrence Curry

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of a Resolution recognizing September 22, 2012 as
"National Falls Prevention Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution aimed at promoting falls awareness and prevention for Pennsylvania's senior citizens.

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among people age 65 and older, and result in more than 18,000 deaths each year. Falls are also the most common cause of injuries for older adults, including hip fractures and head traumas. Treating fall-related injuries costs more than \$19 billion each year, with the average hospital stay for a fall costing approximately \$17,500.

Pennsylvania is home to more than 1.9 million senior citizens age 65 and older, which is the second highest senior citizen population in the nation. By 2020, more than 3 million Pennsylvanians will be 60 years of age or older. The chance of falling increases with age, therefore, we can expect an increase in fall-related hospitalizations as our population ages. As such, we need to raise awareness of fall prevention and risks in an effort to reduce injuries and medical costs, save lives and help our senior citizens maintain their independence and mobility.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Jane Victor via email at jvictor@pahouse.net or by phone at 717-772-9854 or in-house direct line #6433.