

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

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September 6, 2002

The Honorable Thomas Gannon
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
Room 49 East Wing
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Gannon:

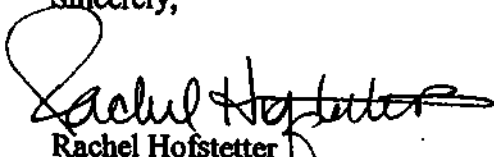
On behalf of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, I would like to submit the following comments in response to HR 110. The resolution directs the House Judiciary Committee to study the use, cost and effect of the publication of legal notices and to issue recommendations accordingly. We appreciate the interest the Committee has taken in this issue.

In light of today's technology, we believe there are more efficient and cost effective ways to publish legal notices. The most important issue for counties with respect to advertising and notices is that they be given the flexibility to publish such information in meaningful venues. For instance, if a county needs to notify an audience that is located out-of-state, it is a waste of time and money for that county to place the notice in local papers. Counties are often accused of mismanaging taxpayer dollars. However, many fail to recognize that restrictions such as those contained in Title 45, force counties to operate inefficiently.

We would like to encourage the Legislature to update Pennsylvania's antiquated statutes pertaining to publication and notice requirements, and expand the venues to include the Internet, legal and trade publications, pre-qualified bidder lists, and similar targeted alternatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these comments with you. Please feel free to contact me at the number listed above if the Association can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Rachel Hofstetter
Director of Government Relations

cc: Michael Schwoyer, Chief Counsel

