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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives
From: Representative Tim Solobay
Date: May 28, 2009
Subject: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Fire Sprinklers

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that will require automatic fire sprinklers in newly-constructed one- and two-family dwellings.

It is the official position of the Department of Homeland Security's United States Fire Administration that "all Americans should be protected against death, injury, and property loss resulting from fire in their residences. All homes should be equipped with smoke alarms and automatic fire sprinklers..." In late 2008, the International Code Council voted to approve language amending the International Residential Code to require fire sprinklers in new homes, and Pennsylvania's Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Review and Advisory Council has recommended that this change be incorporated into the UCC.

My language would amend the Pennsylvania Construction Code to add language similar to the ICC/IRC requirements, so that new one- and two-family dwellings and townhomes built after the effective date must be equipped with a fire sprinkler system when required by the international fire code.

If you would like to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Holly Stimely at 787-1188 or hstimely@pahouse.net.