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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Peter J. Zug *PJZ*

DATE: January 6, 1999

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation - Private Correctional Facilities
(formerly House Bill 213)

When we return to session I plan to reintroduce legislation which would authorize the establishment and operation of private correctional facilities in the Commonwealth.

We know the private sector has demonstrated its efficiency and success in providing for the confinement and treatment of juvenile offenders. It is time to permit privatization of adult correctional facilities. There is not compelling reason for the Commonwealth to continue to pay for the outrageous costs associated with the incarceration of offenders who are non-violent, who pose little or no risk to the surrounding community.

My bill provides for oversight by the Department of Corrections and appropriate safeguards for the operation of private correctional facilities. The facilities must be licensed by the Department and the corrections officers must be certified according to the Department's training requirements.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Jodi Marsico at 7-2686 or via Groupwise.

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