

PETER J. ZUG, MEMBER



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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** ALL HOUSE MEMBERS  
**FROM:** REPRESENTATIVE PETER ZUG  
**RE:** Reintroduction of Legislation – Childcare Personnel (Prior HB 185)  
**DATE:** January 21, 2003

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In the near future, I will be re-introducing legislation that will require law enforcement personnel to notify a school or childcare service administrator if an employee is charged with a crime that would preclude him/her from employment at the school or childcare service. This legislation seeks to address a deficiency in existing law in which there is no duty to give notice to the very people we entrust with the health, safety and well-being of our children.

You may be familiar with an incident that occurred a few years ago involving a Cornwall-Lebanon School District math teacher who was charged with exposing himself to a woman and her two children. This incident occurred in May of that year, but the school discovered months later that charges were pending when notice of the teacher's waiver of preliminary hearing appeared in the newspaper on the SAME DAY the teacher was featured in a weekly article entitled "Inside the Classroom." Nearly five months had elapsed from the time of arrest to the time that the school was actually notified. To their credit, school officials took immediate action and suspended the teacher pending an investigation into the matter.

My legislation simply requires the law enforcement agency to give schools and childcare services notice of the name of the arrested individual, his/her address, the criminal act which the person is alleged to have committed (with description), and current disposition of the case. The police would be permitted to share additional information as deemed necessary to protect public safety. Further, the notice requirement would only apply if the law enforcement agency knows or subsequently discovered that the person arrested was an employee of a school or childcare service.



The types of offenses that must be reported are the same offenses that would prohibit a person from working at a school or a childcare service in the first place, such as criminal homicide, rape, aggravated assault, indecent exposure, and endangering the welfare of children. Also the phrases “employee of a school” and “employee of a children care service” are given specific definitions in this legislation.

I strongly encourage you to sign on as a co-sponsor of my legislation. If you are interested in being a co-sponsor, please contact Lori Losch at 787-2686 or [llosch@pahousegop.com](mailto:llosch@pahousegop.com).

THOMAS P. GANNON, MEMBER  
Chairman  
House Judiciary Committee



Michael S. Schwoyer  
Chief Counsel  
House Box 202020  
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House of Representatives  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

MEMO

**TO:** Clarence Myer, Jr.  
House Parliamentarian

**FROM:** Representative Peter Zug  
Representative Kevin Blaum

**DATE:** April 30, 2003

**RE:** Change in Co - Sponsorship for House Bill 277

Dear Clancy:

We would like you to change the co-sponsorship for House Bill 277. Please make Rep. Blaum the first listed co-sponsor of House Bill 277. It is our expectation that this bill will be amended by the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday May 6, 2003, and we would appreciate your help in accommodating our request at that time.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter".

Representative Peter J. Zug

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kevin Blaum".

Representative Kevin Blaum

## **House Passes Zug Bill Protecting School Children**

HARRISBURG – The House today unanimously passed House Bill 277, Rep. Peter Zug's (R-102) legislation aimed at protecting school children from school employees who may have committed violent or sexual crimes.

The bill directs arresting officers to contact the administrator of a school or child care facility with information on employees who are arrested or charged with violent or sexual offenses, and certain other crimes that would preclude their employment at these facilities.

“This legislation seeks to address a deficiency in existing law in which there is no duty to give notice to the very people we entrust with the health, safety and well-being of our children,” said Zug. “We must make sure the people looking after our young ones are of the utmost character.”

Zug said a driving force behind this legislation was an incident that occurred in Cornwall-Lebanon School District involving a math teacher who a few years ago was charged with exposing himself to a woman and her two children.

“This terrible incident occurred in May of that year, but the school discovered months later that charges were pending when notice of the teacher's waiver of preliminary hearing appeared in the newspaper on the SAME DAY the teacher was featured in a weekly article entitled Inside the Classroom,” said Zug. “Nearly five months had elapsed from the time of arrest to the time that the school was actually notified. To their credit, school officials took immediate action and suspended the teacher pending an investigation into the matter.”

Zug's legislation requires law enforcement agencies to give schools and child care services notice of the name of the arrested individual, his or her address, the criminal act the person is alleged to have committed (with description), and current disposition of the case. The



police would be permitted to share additional information as deemed necessary to protect public safety. Further, the notice requirement would only apply if the law enforcement agency knows or subsequently discovered that the person arrested was an employee of a school or child care service.

The types of offenses that must be reported are the same offenses that would prohibit a person from working at a school or a child care service in the first place, such as criminal homicide, rape, aggravated assault, indecent exposure, and endangering the welfare of children.

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**Rep. Sam Smith, Majority Leader**  
**Pennsylvania House of Representatives**  
**66<sup>th</sup> Legislative District**  
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(717) 787-3845 (717) 787-6564 fax  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 8, 2003

Contact: Kelly Fedeli  
(717) 787-3845

**Smith Urges Volunteer Fire Companies/Ambulance Services to  
Apply for Grants**

HARRISBURG – Area volunteer fire companies and ambulance services have until December 31 to apply for their share of \$25 million in state grants, according to Rep. Sam Smith (R-66). Smith said he is concerned because, just three weeks before the deadline, only 1,300 of over 3,000 eligible fire and EMS organizations have applied.

“Every volunteer organization that applies for this grant is guaranteed some level of funding,” Smith said. “When you consider that equipment costs have increased, and volunteer recruitment levels are down, these grants become extremely valuable. The average volunteer firefighter spends nearly 80 percent of his or her time fundraising and these state funds can certainly help to ease this burden somewhat.”

Smith urged local organizations that have not already taken advantage of this opportunity, to complete their application or obtain one by calling the Office of the State Fire Commissioner at (800) 670-3473 or (717) 651-2200. Applications are also available online at [www.OSFC.state.pa.us](http://www.OSFC.state.pa.us)

Under the program, \$22 million will be allocated for fire company grants and \$3 million for ambulance service grants. Grant amounts will range from \$2,500 to \$15,000 and may be used for construction or renovation of facilities, purchase or repair of equipment, training and debt reduction.

“Many local volunteer organizations have already applied for these grants, but I won’t be satisfied until every department does,” Smith said. “Our emergency responders are valuable members of our communities and we in the House have worked hard, and will continue working to support these selfless citizens.”

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Smith noted that since 1995, the state Legislature has enacted a number of initiatives to support emergency responders, including a law providing workers' compensation coverage for emergency responders who contract Hepatitis C on the job; a law exempting volunteer fire organizations from the burdensome food certification law; and the Child Beneficiary Education Act that provides free college education to children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty. The state's General Assembly also provided \$20 million to stabilize the highly-utilized 2% Volunteer Loan Assistance Program.

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