

THOMAS A. TANGRETTI, MEMBER

105 STATION PLACE
101 EHALT STREET
GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 15601
PHONE: (724) 834-6400
FAX: (724) 834-6799

328 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 783-5963
FAX: (717) 772-9986



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS TANGRETTI *T. T.*

SUBJECT: CO-SPONSORSHIP OF LEGISLATION: SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS TEACHER LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

DATE: JANUARY 23, 2007

In the near future, I will be re-introducing legislation to establish a Science and Mathematics Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program. This legislation will provide financial incentive to encourage teachers with a science or math degree, earned from a Pennsylvania institution of higher education, to pursue their teaching career in the Commonwealth.

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), estimates that 37% of high school math and science teachers lack a certification in that field. Accordingly, my legislation proposes an incrementally increasing loan forgiveness program for science and math teachers. Participants, who must be Pennsylvania residents and attend a Pennsylvania institution of higher education, would be entitled to loan forgiveness in the amount of \$1,000 for their first year of teaching, \$2,000 for the second, \$4,000 for the third and \$8,000 for their fourth year. This incremental increase provides incentive for qualified teachers to remain in Pennsylvania for a full four years.

Previous co-sponsors include: THOMAS, BELFANTI, BIANCUCCI, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CREIGHTON, CURRY, DeWEESE, FAIRCHILD, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GERGELY, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HERMAN, JOSEPHS, KILLION, KOTIK, LEDERER, LEVDANSKY, MANDERINO, MARKOSEK, McILHATTAN, MICOZZIE, PETRARCA, PRESTON, READSHAW, REED, SAINATO, SATHER, YUDICHAK, SAYLOR, SHANER, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, SURRA, WALKO, WHEATLEY, WILT, YOUNGBLOOD, JAMES and WANSACZ.

If you wish to join me in this effort, please contact Cynthia Clory in my office by calling 783-5963 or via e-mail at cclory@pahouse.net.