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House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS COMMERCE **CONSUMER AFFAIRS** INSURANCE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION DEMOCRATIC POLICY

Memorandum

All Members of the House of Representatives To:

From: Representative Tom Tangretti

Date: February 1, 2007

Re: Co-sponsorship of legislation to establish Health Care Responsibility Report

As the debate over the rising cost of health care intensifies, I hope you will join me in an effort to bring those costs under control. By allowing the General Assembly to gain a clearer understanding of the difficulties we face, we will be better equipped to fight this growing problem and to help ensure that health care is accessible for all. Therefore, I ask that you cosponsor my legislation to establish the Pennsylvania Health Care Responsibility Report because I believe it is an important step toward that goal.

Specifically, this bill would direct the Secretary of Health to compile a report that details the health care costs associated with each business in the Commonwealth that employs 50 or more beneficiaries of public health access. The report would be presented each year to the General Assembly and would be made available to the public by the Department of Health.

I am introducing this bill because I believe it is important to identify the best way to distribute health care costs between employers and the Commonwealth. By compiling information about employers' health care programs and needs, we may be able to cut unnecessary health care expenses from the state budget without negatively impacting the care that Pennsylvanians receive. As a result, more Pennsylvanians may have access to quality health care while the financial and administrative burdens on our state government are actually reduced.

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