

THOMAS A. TANGRETTI, MEMBER

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

☐

328 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING  
P.O. BOX 202057  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2057  
PHONE: (717) 783-5963  
FAX: (717) 772-9986




House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

TOURISM & RECREATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT, CHAIRMAN  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Thomas Tangretti 

DATE: March 22, 2007

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of legislation: Methamphetamine Labs

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I will be re-introducing legislation in the near future to address concerns related to methamphetamine laboratories, commonly referred to as “meth labs.”

As you may know, methamphetamine is shockingly easy to manufacture, and many makeshift “meth labs” are set up in apartments and homes. In addition, the production of methamphetamine requires the use of highly toxic chemicals such as methanol, ether, and anhydrous ammonia; the “cooking” process itself can also give off harmful fumes. Unfortunately, this can result in site contamination – carpets, countertops, wallboard, and even nearby drinking water wells – that affects not only the meth producer but also future residents of the property. However, Pennsylvania law does not currently require property owners to inform prospective buyers or renters when a property was previously used for drug production.

This measure would amend The Landlord and Tenant Act to require that a landlord disclose to a potential renter prior to lease signing when it is known that a property has been used as a meth lab. Disclosure requirements are already in place for other important health and safety issues, but at this time, The Landlord and Tenant Act does not require disclosure of potential health or safety concerns.

Methamphetamine production is an emerging danger to our communities, and it is important that we take proactive steps to ensure the safety of our constituents and neighborhoods. If you would like to join me in supporting these measures, please contact Sharon Snell at 783-1023 or by e-mail at [ssnell@pahouse.net](mailto:ssnell@pahouse.net).

