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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

DESIGNATIONS:

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY COUNCIL

June 10, 2004

«FirstName» «LastName»
«JobTitle»
«Address1»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Salutation»:

As Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee, I extend my support and ask for your assistance in restoring funding to the Civil Air Patrol Program. The CAP Program is dedicated to teaching young adults responsibility, leadership, and the importance of education. These children leave this program with the knowledge of flight and flight safety as well as the experience and determination to focus on preparing for their future. Many of the students that leave the CAP Program move ahead to furthering their knowledge in college classes, registering to defend our country, or taking the skills they learned and heading to the work force. The Civil Air Patrol program is making a difference in the lives of Pennsylvania's youth.

Since September 11, 2001, homeland security has become a major focus in Pennsylvania. The CAP Program focuses on training individuals to protect and serve their state and country with honor. I ask that this program be given the opportunity to teach more children to defend Pennsylvania and learn the skills to assist our country in times of need. I believe this work is important and deserves to be offered funding from the 2004-2005 budget.

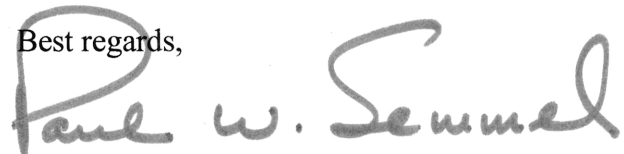
It has been through my position as Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee that I have been able to offer my support in the past to line item funding for the CAP and their programs and initiatives. It has also been my honor and privilege to witness first hand the many duties, functions, and operations that are carried out by this amazing group of individuals. On many occasions I have experienced their abilities to offer aid with search and rescue and assist state agencies in times of disaster or need. The responsibilities of the CAP are bountiful and necessary to offer a safe and secure home for Pennsylvanians.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) was formed after the attack on Pearl Harbor during World War II. This group of individuals worked to protect the home front from further attacks or other dangers. The CAP continued their program and again dedicated their time to America following the September 11, 2001 attacks. The CAP is quickly becoming an intricate partner with the federal

Department of Homeland Security, and I would argue that we must continue the Commonwealth's partnership by restoring the CAP line item funding in this years state budget.

I ask for your support of a \$400,000 Civil Air Patrol funding line item to be included in the 2004-2005 budget. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul W. Semmel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P".

PAUL W. SEMMEL
Majority Chairman
Veterans Affairs & Emergency
Preparedness Committee

PWS/prh

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Governor Rendell

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