

**PAUL W. SEMMEL, MEMBER**  
ROOM 47, EAST WING  
HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 202020  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2020  
PHONE (717) 787-3017  
E-MAIL: psemmel@pahousegop.com

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
4525 SPRING HILL DRIVE  
P. O. BOX 235  
SCHNECKSVILLE, PA 18078  
PHONE: (610) 799-0187

UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP BUILDING  
8330 SCHANTZ ROAD  
BREINIGSVILLE, PA 18031  
PHONE: (610) 395-8180

KUTZTOWN BOROUGH HALL  
PHONE: (610) 683-9199



## *House of Representatives*

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

### COMMITTEES:

VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MAJORITY CHAIRMAN  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
HOUSE MAJORITY POLICY COMMITTEE  
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

### DESIGNATIONS:

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY COUNCIL

January 14, 2005

Vernon Ross, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

RE: Areas 3D, 4C, and 5C

Dear Mr. Ross:

I am writing in regards to the increase of hunting accidents and fatalities this past deer hunting season after many years of decline.

Having had a pregnant constituent seated in her vehicle, struck by a stray bullet, and who is now recuperating at home, I am requesting that the Game Commission review the types of weapons and ammunition used in the areas referenced above. I believe there are many other areas of the Commonwealth that have had experienced significant residential growth, such as these areas. Should the regulations be modified as they have been in the Philadelphia and Allegheny areas?

I would also like to request the Game Commission review the Canadian Geese situation in Southeastern Pennsylvania. It has again come to my attention that many farm grain fields, golf courses, and parks are being over run by the native population.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact my office at 717-787-3017.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul W. Semmel".

PAUL W. SEMMEL  
State Representative  
187<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

PWS/bmg

**Rep. Paul Semmel**  
**187th District**  
**Pennsylvania House of Representatives**  
(610) 799-0187  
(717) 787-3017  
www.PaulSemmel.com  
Contact: Emily J. Straitiff  
House Republican Public Relations  
(717) 787-7980  
www.pahousegop.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 31, 2005**

**Semmel Resolution Calls for Study of Rifle and Shotgun Use  
In High Population Areas**

**HARRISBURG** – Working to improve public safety and prevent accidental shootings during hunting season, Rep. Paul Semmel (R-Leigh/Burks) has House approval of a measure designed to study the use of rifles and shotguns.

As a result of Semmel's legislation, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee will now conduct a study on the use of rifles and shotguns in special regulated areas within the Commonwealth, particularly populous areas of the southeast and southwest.

"This study will give us the information we need to determine if special regulation areas for using rifles and shotguns should be expanded in the Commonwealth," said Semmel. "In November a mother-to-be was shot and nearly killed. This is a matter that needs to be looked into to prevent such incidences from ever happening again."

The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee will contract with an independent risk assessment specialist to conduct the study in coordination with the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission determines the type of firearms or bow and arrows and the type of ammunition that hunters may use in designated areas of the state based on public safety and the proper management of game animals and game birds.

The resolution also requires that the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee prepare oral and written reports within 180 days of the adoption of the resolution, which is to be presented to the Game and Fisheries Committee of the House of Representatives.

The Game and Wildlife Code provides the Game Commission with the authority to define geographic limitations, determine type and number of devices to be used in game and wildlife activities, and to collect, classify, and preserve data to be used by the Game Commission.

"This terrible incident reflects a serious problem that continues to grow as urban and suburban expansion increases in many areas of the state," said Semmel. "This study will provide us with some

much-needed information on the use of hunting firepower in populated areas and I am looking forward to reviewing the results of the report.”

Semmel’s resolution passed the House on March 30.

###

EJS/