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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

January 12, 2005

MEMORANDUM

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TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Larry O. Sather

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – Long-Term Care Assessor Training and Certification Act

In the next several weeks, I will be reintroducing legislation that would require the PA Department of Aging to develop a training and certification program for qualified assessors of individuals needing long-term care services. I had introduced this legislation in the past two sessions—the bills passed the House unanimously in both sessions, however, the Senate did not consider them.

Currently, there is no uniform, standardized assessment process for long-term care assessments of private pay consumers. I believe that this legislation would ensure that only those entities that meet requirements developed by the Department of Aging for training and certification would be qualified to perform non-Options assessments. By ensuring a uniform, standardized approach, consumers can be assured of quality control by the Department of Aging. In addition, the bill requires the department to develop and make available a listing of qualified assessors—such listing would be posted on the department's Internet World Wide Web site and through the local area agencies on aging.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Jennifer in my office at 7-3335 or by e-mail jhaines@pahousegop.com.

LOS/jrh