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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

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Memorandum

To: All House Members

From: Representative Stan Saylor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan", written over the name "Representative Stan Saylor".

Date: September 17, 2012

RE: Proposed Legislation- Prohibiting Funding for Health Insurance Exchanges

Pursuant to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 1311 directs states to establish health insurance 'exchanges' and Section 1321 authorizes the federal government to create exchanges where states do not. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) leaves the decision of whether states shall implement their own health insurance exchange to the states's legislatures and/or administrations. To date, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has not established such a health insurance exchange.

To signal that opting out of participating in the ACA is indeed the decision of the Commonwealth, I will be introducing a two-bill package to block spending of any more federal grant dollars to plan implementation of the federal health reform law. The provisions would specifically ban the insurance department from spending any federal grant money intended to plan, develop, and implement the insurance purchasing exchange.

It is irresponsible for the state to spend any taxpayer monies to implement something that will trigger large tax increases and promote a federally regulated plan which will require an unknown amount of new spending. In the best interest of our citizens of this great Commonwealth, we must take the necessary actions to prohibit the ACA from being implemented in Pennsylvania. Representing our constituents requires that we not enter into a complex scheme that ties our hands and forces us to implement the desires of the federal government at taxpayer expense.

I hope you will consider joining me in support of this important legislative package. If you would like to join me in cosponsoring, please contact my office at 783-6426 or by email to cwalker@pahousegop.com or jdougher@pahousegop.com.