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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Gary Day 
DATE: January 19, 2011
SUBJECT: License To Carry a Firearm Fee (LTCF)

For several years there has been an effort to address inconsistencies, from county to county, with the system to issue a Pennsylvania license to carry a firearm (LTCF). One recent change to the law provided for the adoption of a uniform license containing a photo identification that meets Commonwealth law enforcement standards. A temporary \$5 additional fee was instituted as an additional charge for each LTCF to fund a Firearms License to Carry Modernization Account. The funds in the account have been used to underwrite the costs incurred by county sheriffs when updating their licensing procedures.

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation to carry forward this effort at uniformity in the LTCF process. While the law currently limits the cost of any LTCF to a total of \$25, some confusion has resulted in sheriffs charging greater fees in certain counties. We are down to only about 19 of the 67 issuing agents that continue to charge more for a LTCF than the \$25. Further, the pending expiration (May 11, 2011) of the temporary \$5 fee has created issues as well. **My legislation would:**

- clarify that the total cost for an LTCF, including the current \$5 temporary fee, is \$25;
- **change the temporary \$5 fee** (currently funding the Firearms License to Carry Modernization Account and due to expire this year) **to a permanent fee** and use it to fund an account to provide grants to sheriffs for equipment and training (Sheriff's Equipment and Training Fund);
- transfer any existing funds in the Firearms License to Carry Modernization Account to the Sheriffs' Equipment and Training Fund;
- prohibit access to the equipment and training grants for any sheriff who charged more than \$25 for an LTCF, failed to send LTCF renewal applications as required by current law, or used an irregular LTCF application form in violation of current law; and
- continue penalties in current law for overcharging for an LTCF.

If you would like to join as a cosponsor, please contact Kelly Moyer in my office at 787-3017 or email her at kmoyer@pahousegop.com.