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November 25, 2009

CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE COMMITTEE POLICY COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES: FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES LOCAL TAX REFORM RURAL HEALTH CARE SPORTSMEN TIMBER

APPOINTMENTS
STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS
PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania P. O. Box 8477 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

Environmental Quality Board

Dear Chairman Hanger and Board Members:

I would like to voice my strong opposition to the proposed regulation of outdoor wood-fired boilers. I am enclosing several letters that I have received in addition to telephone calls, in-person comments, and e-mails.

As a legislator representing a predominantly rural district of Pennsylvania, I am being contacted by numerous constituents who are very concerned about the proposed regulations. Given that wood is easily accessible, provides reliable heat, and is generally less expensive than other energy such as electricity, natural gas, propane, oil, etc., many residents of the northern tier have installed outdoor wood-fired boilers. The proposed regulations will impose unnecessary and costly changes on many of these residents.

I believe that the regulation of outdoor wood-fired boilers should be left to local municipalities – many of which have already enacted ordinances to control the installation and use of these boilers. The Commonwealth's intention to police another aspect of our citizens' lives is overstepping the state's authority.

Sincerely, Notthew E. Baker

Matthew E. Baker State Representative 68th Legislative District

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Enclosures

cc: Concerned Citizens