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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM  
September 13, 2006

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**To:** Members of the House of Representatives  
**From:** Representative Lawrence Curry  
**RE:** Proposed Legislation ~ Implementing a Ballistic Fingerprinting System in Pennsylvania

In the near future, I intend to introduce legislation which would require the implementation of a ballistic fingerprinting system for all firearms manufactured and/or sold in the Commonwealth.

Similar to laws currently in effect in New York and Maryland, this system would require all manufacturers to fire a round from the firearm and arrange for the shell casing and projectile to be transmitted to the Pennsylvania State Police, along with the make, model, and serial number, when the gun is sold in Pennsylvania.

The technology is proven, reliable, and effective. When any gun is fired, identifying marks are made on the bullets and cartridge casings. These marks are unique and reproducible. No two firearms leave the same marks and every time a gun is fired it leaves identical marks. These qualities provide a critical tool to law enforcement for solving gun crimes by rapidly identifying the specific weapon used in a crime.

This is a common-sense provision that should enhance the safety and welfare of the citizens of our state. If you wish to co-sponsor this bill, please contact Judy Fremont at 3-1079 or e-mail her at [jfremont@pahouse.net](mailto:jfremont@pahouse.net).