



**SENATOR JOHN PIPPY
2007-2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
PRIME SPONSORED BILL SUMMARY**

SENATE BILL 1225

SB 1225 will create a system of intrastate mutual aid between participating political subdivisions within the Commonwealth. Mutual Aid agreements are important to enabling effective and rapid response to manmade and natural disasters that require actions beyond the capacity of the municipality or county in which the incident has occurred.

At present, Pennsylvania is one of only 15 states without a statewide mutual aid agreement. While mutual aid occurs in the Commonwealth at the county and municipal level, it is often without written agreements and without clearly defined divisions of responsibility. As a result, cross jurisdictional aid often raises questions about liability and workers compensation concerns.

The enactment of formal Mutual Aid legislation will clarify roles and responsibilities across Pennsylvania's municipalities and between state and county officials relative to the prevention of, response to, and recovery from threats to public health and safety that are beyond the response capability of an affected community.