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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

Senate Co-Sponsorship Memoranda

Senate Bill 458

Senate of Pennsylvania Session of 2017 - 2018 Regular Session

MEMORANDUM

Posted: December 5, 2016 Latest Action Oct. 25, 2017

From: Senator David G. Argall

To: All Senate members

Subject: Strengthening penalties for illegal household goods movers operating in Pennsylvania



Household goods movers in the Commonwealth are required by law to register and obtain a permit with the Public Utility Commission (PUC), maintain workers compensation insurance, pay wages subject to taxation and maintain insurance coverage for the goods moved.

Despite efforts by the PUC to enforce current regulations, a strong underground market exists among the household goods movers. In the near future, I will introduce legislation that will provide new penalties for illegal household goods movers enforceable by the PUC.

"Rogue" movers often pose as legal household goods movers with professional moving trucks, typically soliciting business through Craigslist advertisements but lack the permit from the

PUC, do not carry workers compensation, nor do they pay proper taxes to the Department of Revenue.

Under my legislation, if a rogue mover is arrested while making an illegal household move, they shall be subject to a \$5,000 fine, a third-degree misdemeanor, suspension of registration and forfeiture of the motor vehicle used in the illegal move.

Each offense thereafter will be subject to a \$10,000 fine and imprisonment of up to one year. All revenue generated from fines shall go to the PUC's Motor Carrier Enforcement. This legislation will similar to

Senate Bill 857 of 2015, which was unanimously approved by the Senate on October 27, 2015.

