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Alloway Urges Extension to MCare Abatement Program

CHAMBERSBURG – Rich Alloway, candidate for state Senate has declared today “a sad day in Pennsylvania.”

Alloway's declaration comes on the final day of the MCare (Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error) abatement program in Pennsylvania. “If the MCare abatement program isn't extended today, doctors and community hospitals from all over the state will be forced to pay higher medical malpractice premiums,” Alloway said. “Higher bills for them can mean a reduction in services and a loss of doctors to other states with a more favorable insurance climate.”

Alloway said the five-year-old MCare program helps physicians and hospitals pay a portion of their medical malpractice insurance premiums. The fund helps pay toward the cost of the \$500,000 in MCare fund coverage that the state requires each doctor to secure, in addition to the \$500,000 in primary coverage from the private marketplace. MCare assistance is financed primarily by a 25-cent tax on cigarettes and a surcharge on traffic citations.

Alloway supports the extension of the MCare program so meaningful debate can take place on how to address healthcare in the Commonwealth.

“We need to improve the medical malpractice insurance climate for our community doctors and hospitals so Chambersburg Hospital, Gettysburg Hospital and our other fine community health providers can continue to provide the services that we need,” said Alloway. “MCare abatement is one of those necessary tools that helps to improve this climate, and politics must be removed so the job can get done.”

“As your state Senator, I will fight to stop the governor from holding our hospitals and doctors hostage for political gain,” stated Alloway. “Healthcare in our communities is more important than petty politics in Harrisburg.”

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