



STAY INFORMED

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Dear Neighbor,

Happy 4th of July!

As the holiday approaches, please be aware of the [laws in your area](#) regarding [fireworks](#) and burn bans. I wish you all a safe and happy July 4th.



Around the Capitol



I had the honor and privilege to lead prayer on Wednesday, June 28th to open the day's session at the House of Representatives.

Bike Riding in State Parks

Family-friendly [bicycling trails](#) are available in 29 state parks to explore this summer.

Tick Awareness

Beware of ticks if you brush against the tips of grasses or shrubs since they could climb onto you. [Learn more](#) from the CDC.

Around the District



Another year of fun and entertainment at NENA's block party!

It is always a pleasure to be a part of our wonderful community, and see the smiling faces on our kids.

Congratulations to Juelz Padgett, who won his **first cake** after two years of trying his luck at the cake walk! 😊



Thank you to Hanover Diversity Alliance and YWCA Hanover for allowing me to speak at Hanover Juneteenth Jubilee. I had the best time getting to know new members within the community and talking to our youth.

Funding Opportunities

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency: Support Families of Child Abuse Victims

Who May Apply: Non-profits that specialize in providing service for child abuse victims in Pennsylvania.

Use: Implementation of a research or evidence-based trauma training to support non-offending caregivers of child abuse victims.

Funds: \$250,000 in federal Children's Justice Act funds.

Application Deadline: July 6, 2023

More information: [PCCD website](#)

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency: PA START/STOP Project

Who May Apply: Any private non-profit agency, any private for-profit agency, public agency, or unit of local government.

Use: The PA START/STOP campaigns aim to increase awareness of the dangers of Opioid abuse, as well as to provide resources to assist parents and caregivers in promoting healthy behaviors among youth to prevent substance use in the first place.

Funds: \$900,000 in federal State Opioid Response funds.

Application Deadline: July 10, 2023

More information: [PCCD website](#)

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation: Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

Who May Apply: Local, county, and tribal governments, transit agencies, schools, school districts, nonprofits, and small Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

Use: Transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation, and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation, and trails that serve a transportation purpose.

Funds: \$28 million in statewide funds will be available from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

More information: [PennDOT website](#)

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission: Historical & Archival Records Care Program

Who May Apply: Historical record repositories (historical societies, libraries, universities, local governments, school districts)

Use: Collections care, including surveying; inventorying; preserving; arranging; and describing historical records significant to Pennsylvania, as well as for records reformatting and equipment

Funds: Individual grants will be funded up to \$5,000 with no match

required. Collaborative grants will allow two organizations to apply jointly for up to \$10,000 or three organizations to apply collaboratively for up to \$15,000, no match required. Funding is provided by PHMC.

Application Deadline: August 21, 2023

More information: [PHMC website](#)

PA Housing Finance Agency: Housing Options Grant Program

Who May Apply: Non-profits and developers.

Use: To help continue affordable housing production in Pennsylvania.

Funds: \$100 million in total program funding.

Application Deadline: All grants should be awarded no later than December 31, 2024. All funds must be expended by December 31, 2026.

More Information: [PHFA website](#)

Legislative Update

The following highlights some of the legislation which passed the House recently and are with the PA Senate for consideration.



I am happy to report my third bill passed out of the PA House. While I have also had resolutions pass, these bills among many others I have introduced, have been brought to my attention by many of you.

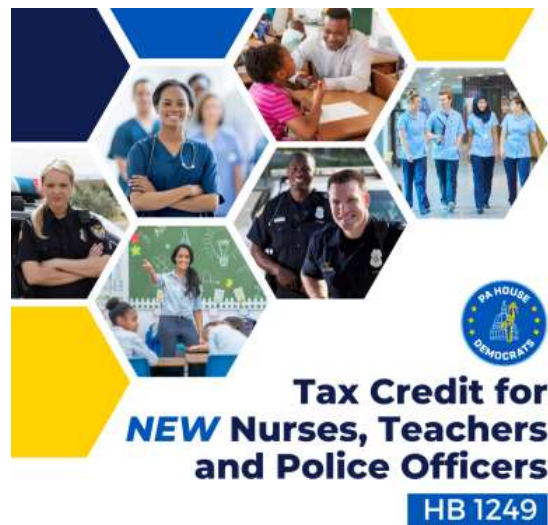
[HB1171](#) would change regulations in the convenience store industry to **address safety concerns for pedestrians and vehicles**. Current regulation limits the number of fuel dispensers that can be placed on a site, and how far from the store they can be, resulting in stacking of vehicles and increased vehicle congestion. It also impacts alignment of fuel canopies, which can impact line of sight. HB1171 allows for an increased distance. **This bill passed unanimously** and is now a Senate vote away from the Governor's desk.

[HB1207](#) would remove the size stipulation in current law associated with Land Bank jurisdictions, allowing any municipality to establish a Land Bank on a voluntary basis. Land banks **give municipalities a means to convert**

vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties into productive use.

Land banks have increased property values, increased municipal revenues, decreased municipal service expenses, increased health and well-being for residents, and improved quality of life in communities. This bill passed with bipartisan support.

[HB1249](#) would create a **tax credit for incoming certified Pennsylvania nurses, teachers, and police officers.** These professions all suffer from worker shortages. One in four nursing jobs are unfilled, municipalities need at least 1,200 more police officers, and many public schools are having a hard time filling teaching positions. When there are too few of these hardworking professionals, students struggle, hospitals scramble to provide safe nurse-to-patient ratios, and community safety is at risk. This bill passed with bipartisan support.



[HB1331](#) would provide student teaching stipends to **help remove financial barriers for aspiring teachers.** It would follow the parameters of the school-based Mental Health Internship Program enacted last year. Pennsylvania would join states like Colorado, Michigan, and Oklahoma, which addressed the growing teacher shortage crisis by passing similar legislation. This bill passed with bipartisan support.

[HB967](#) would **require hotel employers to provide their housekeeping and room service employees with electronic safety devices** that allow the employee to request immediate assistance regarding their safety or well-being if the hotel has at least 150 rooms. Hospitality workers in the hotel industry, many of whom are women, face daily exposure to unwanted sexual advances, harassment, and violence. The bill passed with bipartisan support.

[HB580](#) would **increase access to healthy, affordable fresh food options for underserved communities** in urban, rural, and suburban areas across the state. Residents in low-income and rural neighborhoods, where grocery stores are scarce, rely more on small corner grocery stores with limited stock and no produce.



This program, which operated from 2004 to 2010, would once again provide grants for the construction, rehabilitation, or expansion of grocery stores, farmers markets, and other healthy food retail establishments in low- to moderate-income areas in need of fresh food options. This bill passed with bipartisan support.

[HB1500](#) would **increase the statewide minimum wage**. The increase would be \$11.00 by 2024, \$13 by 2025, and \$15 by 2026. After that it would have an automatic cost of living adjustment. Tipped wages would be 60% of the minimum wage.

👉 [Click here](#) to tell your senator, "Please do the right thing, please stand with working people."

#RaiseTheWage



[HB767](#) would improve opportunities in farming by **creating the Pennsylvania Socially Diverse Farmers Commission.**

Currently, within the \$133 billion agriculture industry in Pennsylvania, of the farms only .0008% have Black producers, .008% have Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish producers, .001% have Asian producers, and .001% have Native or Alaskan producers.

[HB1058](#) would require in child custody proceedings, courts to solicit and consider the opinions of those who engaged with the family finding and **kinship care programs** before and during the proceedings.



Upcoming Events



Become an American Red Cross
BloodBooster



Help save lives by giving blood at one of these convenient locations:

Rocky 98.5 Summer Blood Drives

Heritage Hills Golf Resort - Ballroom

2700 Mt Rose Avenue

York, PA 17402

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

10:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Call 1-800-RED CROSS for an appointment.

Rocky 98.5 Summer Blood Drives

Heritage Hills Golf Resort - Ballroom

2700 Mt Rose Avenue

York, PA 17402

Thursday, June 29, 2023

10:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Call 1-800-RED CROSS for an appointment.

The **York County Pardon Project** is hosting a free expungement and pardon clinic on Wednesday, **July 12** from 5-7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 225 E. Market Street, York.

Lawyers will be on site at this free clinic to answer questions and discuss if an expungement, sealing of the record or a pardon is an option.

Registration is required. Contact Janelle.Black@yorkbar.com or call (717) 854-8755 x 204 to register.

Eligibility requirements are as follows: 1) Arrests/charges in York County only. 2) Must reside in York County. 3) No current criminal charges. 4) Not currently on probation or parole. 5) All applicants



must be prepared to discuss any outstanding costs, fines, and restitution.

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PA House of Representatives Democratic Caucus
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