

New Village of Campbelltown Sign Unveiled



Constitutional Amendments Would Limit Governor's Regulatory Power



Two bills that I co-sponsored to rein in the governor's power to impose executive orders and emergency regulations have been voted out of the House State Government Committee, on which I serve, and are now pending in the House. House Bills [2069](#) and [2070](#) would help to restore the balance of power by giving the Legislature the authority to limit executive orders and regulations. For an explanation of the bills, [click here](#).

Bill Targeting Repeat DUI Offenders Passes House

Working to improve safety on our highways, the House recently adopted legislation that would increase penalties for people convicted of third or subsequent crimes of driving under the influence (DUI). The measure would increase the penalty for a third DUI offense to a felony in the third-degree, or a felony in the second-degree if the driver has three or more prior offenses. [House Bill 773](#) would also require consecutive, rather than concurrent, sentences for these crimes. Known as “Deana’s Law,” the bill is named after Deana Eckman, a 45-year-old Delaware County woman who was killed in a drunk-driving crash in 2019 by a man who had five prior DUI offenses. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.



An Update on Redistricting

In the weeks ahead, we will be considering proposals to redraw the boundaries of Pennsylvania’s U.S. congressional districts, as well as those of the state House and Senate districts to ensure fair and equal representation in state and federal government for all citizens. Every 10 years, the district boundaries are adjusted based on the latest U.S. Census, to reflect shifts in population and ensure the principle of one person, one vote. The Constitution requires the districts to be nearly equal in population. While the goals of redistricting are the same at the federal and state levels, the process for drawing congressional and legislative districts differs as follows:



Congressional Redistricting

- This process redraws boundaries for Pennsylvania members serving in the U.S. Congress.
 - The latest census showed Pennsylvania’s population growth was slower than that of many other states. As a result, the Commonwealth will lose one congressional seat, dropping from 18 districts to 17.
 - Changes to congressional districts go through the typical legislative process. A bill must be introduced outlining the new district boundaries, and the bill must be passed by both the House and Senate in identical form. Then it goes to the governor for his approval or veto.
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- The bipartisan House State Government Committee held hearings across the state to gather input from citizens and community leaders about congressional redistricting. The hearings and testimony are available at paredistricting.com.
- After collecting public input throughout the summer and fall, the committee is now reviewing the information as members work to develop a new map to reflect shifts in population and communities of interest.

State Legislative Redistricting

- This represents the redrawing of districts served by members of the state House of Representatives and state Senate.
- The number of state representatives and senators serving the Commonwealth will remain the same at 203 and 50, respectively.
- Changes to these districts are NOT subject to the typical legislative process but are instead developed by a Legislative Reapportionment Commission. The commission is comprised of the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate, as well as a chairman who, this year, was appointed by the state Supreme Court. The chairman is Mark A. Nordenberg, who previously served as chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh.
- The commission has held hearings across the state to gather input from citizens and community leaders about state legislative redistricting. The hearing, testimony and other public input is available for review at redistricting.state.pa.us. You may also submit your feedback at the website.

The goal is to have this process completed in time for the May 2022 primary election.

Policy Committee Examines Health Care Staffing Shortages

The House Majority Policy Committee was at Penn State Health in Hershey this week to discuss the staffing crisis facing hospitals, nursing homes and other care facilities across the Commonwealth. Testifiers included nurses, hospital executives, and representatives of health care and home care agencies. All expressed concern about the challenge of retaining current health care providers who are struggling with stress, burnout, and other strains on their physical and mental health. During the COVID-19 pandemic, health care providers also saw an increase in the number of nurses leaving facility jobs in favor of higher-paying traveler positions. With the American



Hospital Association estimating hospitals will need to hire at least 200,000 nurses a year to meet increased demand and replace retiring nurses, testifiers urged increasing the number of nursing school programs, offering financial aid programs for candidates, and supporting new care models for patients. To watch a video of the hearing or read testimony submitted to the committee, [click here](#).

Be Prepared for Winter Weather Travel

With snow making an appearance in some parts of the state this week, it's a good time to get your vehicle ready for winter. Consider having your mechanic check your car's brakes, tires, battery, hoses, belts, and fluid levels. Also check to ensure the heater, defroster, lights, wipers and even the radio are operating properly. Try to avoid traveling in severe winter weather, but if you must, bring a winter emergency travel kit, including a blanket and warm clothes, jumper cables, small shovel, first aid kit, medications for you and your passengers, water and nonperishable food. A



full list of suggested items [is available here](#). Also, keep these safe winter driving tips in mind: Slow down and increase your following distance; avoid sudden stops and starts; beware of black ice – roads that look wet but are actually frozen; use extra caution on bridges and ramps, as they tend to freeze first; do not use cruise control while driving on snow-covered roads; remove ice and snow from your vehicle windows and mirrors, as well as the roof and hood; and do not pass or get between trucks plowing in a plow line. For more information and resources to help you prepare for and get through the winter safely, visit penndot.gov/winter.

Amateur Butter Sculpture Contest at 2022 PA Farm Show

In honor of the iconic butter sculpture created each year for the Pennsylvania Farm Show, residents are being encouraged to try their hand at crafting a do-it-yourself butter sculpture. The “Butter Up!” contest, conducted on social media, will be open for submissions from Friday, Dec. 3, through Friday, Dec. 17, at noon. Contestants can use up to five pounds of butter and can use chicken wire, sculpting wire and a base to support the design. Food dye or coloring of any kind is strictly prohibited. Sculptures must be unique, individual work of the entrants.

Contestants will be judged by age group and prizes will be awarded. Complete guidelines, rules and regulations [are available here](#).

