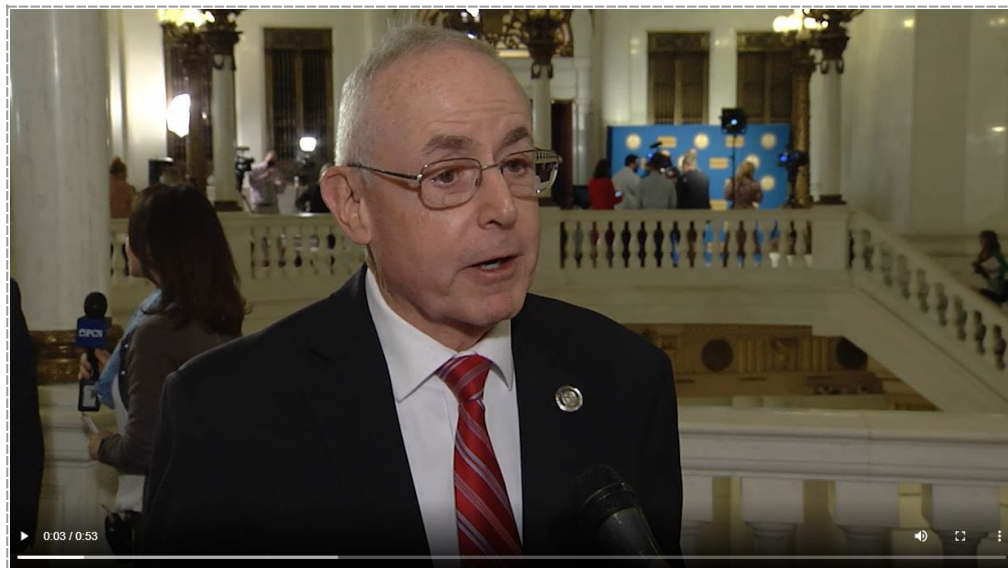


Honoring Local Hero Bill Carpenter

This week, I drafted legislation to name a portion of Pennsylvania Route 72 in Lebanon County in honor of local native, war hero and long-time public servant Bill Carpenter. A decorated U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam, Carpenter was the recipient of the silver star, purple heart and numerous other awards. Since then, he has spent many years in service to the citizens of Lebanon County. Carpenter served as a Lebanon County Commissioner for 24 years and a member of the Cornwall Borough Council for 16 years. He was nominated “Man of the Year” by Mt. Gretna Rotary in 1981 and was a recipient of the “Service to Mankind Award” by Hershey/Palmyra Sertoma in 2000. My legislation proposes to name PA Route 72 from the Lancaster/Lebanon county line to the Lebanon city line in North Cornwall Township, as the William G. Carpenter Highway. My bill will be formally introduced in March.

Governor’s Budget Proposal Ignores Reality



[*Watch Video Here*](#)

This week, Gov. Tom Wolf proposed a \$43.7 billion budget for fiscal 2022-23, which would increase state spending by a whopping \$6.2 billion or 16.6%. That’s \$17 million more a day over the current budget! The governor’s budget also proposes to spend the balance of the federal pandemic funding it received. The governor’s budget address marks the official start of the annual budget process. My House colleagues and I will examine the details of the proposal, conduct

hearings to assess actual needs and adopt a plan that funds the core functions of government while respecting the taxpayers who foot the bill. Budget hearings can be viewed LIVE beginning Tuesday, Feb. 15. For a full schedule, visit PAHouseGOP.com/budgethearings. A final budget is due on or before June 30.

House Advances Bill to Update Standards for CPAs



Frankly
SPEAKING

State Representative
Francis X. Ryan

www.RepFrankRyan.com

This week, the House gave its unanimous approval to legislation I co-sponsored to update regulations that guide the CPA profession. In this week's podcast, I explain why [House Bill 1328](#) is necessary. [Listen here](#).

Local Fire/EMS Companies Receive Over \$248,000 in State Grants

This week, the office of State Fire Commissioner announced the latest round of fire and EMS grants. Nearly \$250,000 is being disbursed in our legislative district. They are:

Campbelltown Vol. Fire Co. \$15,000
Citizens Fire Co. No.1 \$15,000
Community Fire Co. of Cornwall Borough \$15,000
Goodwill Fire Engine and Hose Co. No.5 \$15,000
Independent Fire Co. No.1 \$15,000
Lawn Fire Co. \$15,000
Lebanon Chemical Engine and Insurance Patrol Co. No.1 \$15,000
Lebanon Fire Dept. \$15,000
Lebanon Fire Dept. First Aid and Safety Patrol (EMS) \$ 8,325
Lebanon Hook and Ladder Co. No.1 \$15,000
Liberty Fire Co. No.3 \$15,000
Neversink Fire Co. \$15,000
Perseverance Fire Co. \$15,000
Quentin Vol. Fire Co. \$15,000
Rescue Hose Co. No.4 \$15,000
Union Steam Fire Engine and Hose Co. \$15,000
Washington Fire Co. No.8 \$15,000



The grants, through the 2020-21 Fire Company and Emergency Medical Service Grant Program, may be used for construction or renovation of a unit's station, the purchase or repair of equipment, training or debt reduction. The program is funded solely from state gaming proceeds.

\$25 Million to Support Emergency Medical Services Statewide

Building on the effort started two weeks ago to support the state's health care heroes, the House and Senate have approved legislation to provide \$25 million in funding for an Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program. The funding may be used for recruitment and retention; construction or renovation of an EMS company's facilities; purchase or repair of equipment; debt reduction; training and certification; public education; or revenue loss. EMS companies that qualified for similar grants in the 2019-20 fiscal year would be eligible for



these funds through the Office of the State Fire Commissioner. The funding would be divided evenly among all applicants. In late January, the General Assembly voted to provide \$225 million in funding to support the state's health care workers and encourage new nurses to enter the field. A total of \$210 million is being directed to hospitals and behavioral health providers to provide recruitment and retention payments to nurses and other employees, while an additional \$15 million is being invested in nurse student loan forgiveness.

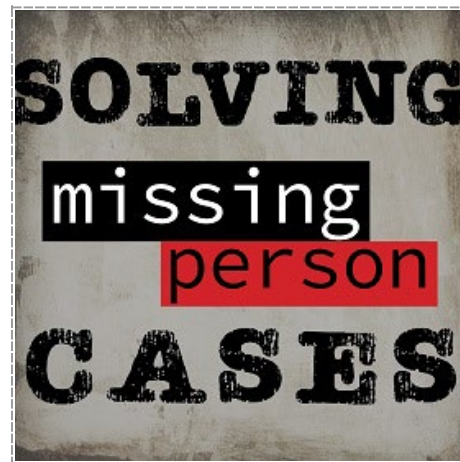
Wolf Vetoes Second Amendment Protection Bill

The governor has vetoed legislation that would have helped combat illegal local gun ordinances and regulations that threaten Pennsylvanians' constitutional rights. State law already prohibits municipalities across the Commonwealth from enacting their own gun laws, but some have chosen to break that law. [House Bill 979](#), which I co-sponsored, would have deterred implementation of illegal ordinances by holding offending jurisdictions financially responsible for attorney fees and costs, as well as any lost income, for a person who successfully challenges such an ordinance. With more than 2,500 municipalities across the state, it's important to ensure uniformity in our gun laws. I will continue fighting for this important protection of our constitutional rights.



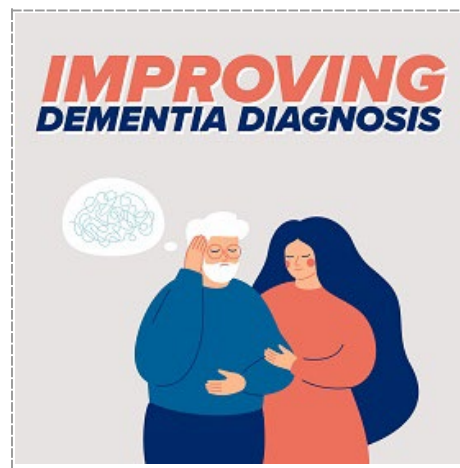
New Law Aims to Help Solve Missing Persons Cases

The loved ones of Pennsylvania's more than 400 missing persons will soon have a new tool available to aid in their search under a new state law. [Act 4 of 2022](#) requires the Pennsylvania State Police to turn over DNA samples of missing persons and unidentified decedents to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS), a nationwide clearinghouse that went online in 2008. The secure and centralized database, which can be used by law enforcement and members of the public for free, promotes information sharing, case management, automatic matching tools and advanced searching tools to expedite case associations and resolutions. In addition, NAMUS offers numerous law enforcement investigative services and in 2019 added victim services to provide information and support to individuals and families impacted by the loss or disappearance of a loved one. The law will take effect in early April.



Bill to Promote Early Detection, Diagnosis of Dementia Now Law

Legislation aimed at improving the early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias was signed into law after unanimous approval in both the House and Senate. [Act 9 of 2022](#), which I co-sponsored, calls on the Department of Health to establish and maintain a toolkit of resources to help educate primary care providers on the importance of early detection. Detecting and diagnosing Alzheimer's and other dementias promptly allows for better care and treatment. It also empowers affected individuals to participate in decision-making about their



future care at a time when their cognition is least impacted.

Looking for a Unique Road Trip?

Beat the winter blues by checking out one of the state's latest food trails featuring fermented foods! "Pickled: A Fermented Trail" features things such as beer, root beer, sauerkraut, vegetables and more. The trail is broken into five sections, giving you options for day trips or weekend getaways. Other culinary trails launched recently highlight charcuterie, apples and grains. They join the state's sweet trails featuring ice cream and maple syrup. Check them out at visitpa.com and hit the road!

