



State Representative  
**Perry Warren**  
 31st Legislative District

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WINTER 2018

*Dear Neighbor,*

Late last year, I stood with my House colleagues in support of the Plan for PA, a blueprint for putting the needs of Pennsylvania residents like you first.

Our plan focuses on good jobs, quality education and fair taxes. We want to make sure our seniors have the resources they need to live securely.

Parts of our plan include raising the minimum wage and adopting a reasonable severance tax on natural gas drilling. Both would go a long way toward helping address Pennsylvania's budgetary issues without adversely impacting middle-class taxpayers.

I'll keep you posted on these and other important issues as we progress in 2018. In this newsletter, you'll find updates on critical pieces of legislation, as well as news from within the 31st District.

You can follow me on Twitter @RepPerryWarren or Facebook.com/RepPerryWarren to keep up with relevant news throughout the year.

It's been an honor to serve as your representative for the past year. If you need assistance with any state-related issue, please reach out to my office and we'll be glad to help you.

Sincerely,

Perry Warren

**Need a SEPTA Key Card?**

Area seniors who have not gotten a SEPTA Key Senior Photo ID Card can sign up at my office.

As of Jan. 16, SEPTA is no longer accepting Medicare Cards for free and reduced-fare rides. Seniors 65 or older must use a Pennsylvania driver license, Pennsylvania non-driver identification card, or a SEPTA Key Senior Photo ID Card for the free and discounted rides.

Staff at my office can help you get your Key Card. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A member of my

legislative staff is also available at Morrisville Borough Hall from noon to 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Please bring along a valid government-issued ID for proof of your age. Call my office at 215-493-5420 for more information or visit [www.septa.org](http://www.septa.org).



**Addressing the opioid epidemic**

I hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee Hearing, attended by state representatives from throughout Pennsylvania, to hear from state and local officials on the efforts to battle opioid abuse statewide.

In Pennsylvania in 2016, an estimated 13 people died each day from a drug overdose. And here in Bucks County, overdose deaths increased from 124 in 2015 to 185 in 2016.

One overdose death is one too many, and the trend is alarming. Throughout the state – in the legislature, in state agencies, in local government offices and schools – we're working to try to reverse those statistics.

The panel heard from Jennifer Smith, acting Secretary of the state Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Jacqui Redner, president of the Pennsbury School Board, George McClay, chief of Morrisville Borough Police, and more.

I was glad to be able to bring local and state advocates together for a meaningful discussion of how we can work together to curb the drug addiction epidemic. I'll continue to work to prevent more overdose deaths.



**Calming truck traffic in our communities**

My staff and I continue to partner with PennDOT and our local municipalities to calm truck traffic in our communities.

The truck traffic study in Lower Makefield Township and Yardley Borough is progressing. I delivered the written requests of Lower Makefield and Yardley, along with a petition with over 1,300 signatures to the office of Transportation Secretary Leslie Richards in September. PennDOT advises that it expects to report its findings by early spring.

PennDOT is also continuing its effort to calm truck traffic on Pennsylvania Avenue in Morrisville. PennDOT reports it is in the process of revising the initial plan and creating a strategy to install signs that would redirect trucks away from Pennsylvania Avenue.

# Legislative news

Several important bills that I supported have become law in recent months, and I've introduced a measure that will help us become more environmentally friendly. Here are a few updates on legislation that will improve our quality of life.

## 'Right to Try' becomes law

Gov. Tom Wolf signed the "Right to Try" bill into law in Pennsylvania in October.

House Bill 45, which I co-sponsored, is now Act 33 of 2017. The law allows an eligible patient with a terminal illness to use investigational drugs, biological products and devices not yet approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. This law will allow those patients to seek additional treatments that may lead to a cure, extend their lives or increase their comfort.

I am pleased that this humanitarian legislation has become law.

## Governor signs cemetery access legislation

I co-sponsored and supported legislation, now signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf, that will ensure families are able to visit their loved ones' graves in private cemeteries.

Act 64 of 2017 requires that cemeteries provide reasonable access to individuals for the purpose of visiting burial plots. Family members should not be caused additional pain by being restricted from visiting the graves of their deceased loved ones.

The new law also requires that if a cemetery is sold, the new owner honor previously purchased burial plots and allow burial for anyone whose burial plot was purchased prior to the change in ownership.

Rep. Mark Gillen, R-Berks/Lancaster counties (and a Pennsbury High School graduate), introduced this legislation after a cemetery refused to allow the parents of a deceased 3-year-old child to visit their child's grave. Having lost a 3-year-old son myself, I cannot imagine being banned from visiting him in the cemetery. I worked with Rep. Gillen to move the bill forward and to ensure that Gov. Wolf would sign the bill into law.

## Bill would reduce use of plastic bottles

I introduced H.B. 1998, legislation that would require newly constructed state-owned government buildings to install water bottle filling stations.

As a member of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, I believe it is important to find an alternative to our heavy use of plastic bottles. Government buildings are a good place to start.

Water bottle filling stations generally are installed alongside water fountains and include a vertical nozzle above the basin by which a person can fill a container with water.

The goal of this legislation is to reduce the use of plastic water bottles and encourage the use of more environmentally friendly reusable water containers by employees and visitors to state government buildings.

The measure would also require water bottle filling stations to be retrofitted in all state-owned buildings that undergo major renovations to their water and pipe infrastructure.



## Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

My legislative staff and I joined 300 sixth- and eighth-grade students from the Council Rock School District, along with the Council Rock High School South Principal Al Funk and other Council Rock staff, for CR CARES Day. The students spent "A Day On" on Martin Luther King Jr. Day by writing letters to service men and women overseas, assembling care packages, and making blankets for shelters, soup kitchens and agencies in Bucks County.

I awarded citations to Goodnoe Elementary School student Faryal Kahn and Maureen Welch Elementary School student Iman Azeez, winners of the Council Rock School District "A Day On" essay contest, and congratulated honorable mention winners Sarah Nelson of Sol Feinstone Elementary School, and Jayden Goffman of Hillcrest Elementary School.

## The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation:

### A Work Resource for People with Disabilities

The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provides support and services to people with disabilities who want to work. Applying for services is voluntary and most applicants receive services at no cost to them. Services are customized based on each customer's condition and employment goals. Commonly provided services include things such as tuition support, training, job coaching, and adaptive equipment. OVR also can help youth with disabilities transition into the adult workforce. If you are interested in learning more or applying for services, please contact OVR's Norristown office at (484) 250-4340.

## Establishing an independent redistricting commission

I've co-sponsored H.B. 722, which would amend the Pennsylvania Constitution by establishing an independent redistricting commission to provide a nonpartisan process for redistricting of Pennsylvania state House, state Senate and Congressional districts.

This bill was referred to the State Government committee for consideration. It's another effort to make sure that our state legislative and congressional districts are mapped out fairly and not in a partisan manner.

# Honoring young athletes in our community

I'm always proud to recognize talented young athletes in our area. Congratulations to these teams, their coaches and the families who support them!



*The Morrisville Little League team captured the 12-and-under state softball title with a 15-0 win over Clearfield last summer. The team then went on to the Eastern Regionals in Bristol, Conn., and made it all the way to the tournament's final four. They had a great day visiting Harrisburg to be recognized in the House chamber.*



*The Newtown American Legion Morrell Smith Post 440 Junior Prep baseball team claimed its first state championship in August with an 8-5 win over Plumstead. My colleagues and I welcomed the team to Harrisburg to celebrate their accomplishment. It was great to see them again in the Newtown holiday parade.*



*I presented a citation to the District I Class AAAA champion Pennsbury High School girls soccer team at their annual banquet. The Falcons finished with a 19-2-2 record.*

# Recognizing a Morrisville veteran



I was honored to present recognition from the House of Representatives to Delroy O. Snow, a Morrisville resident and Petty Officer Second Class of the U.S. Navy.

Petty Officer Snow celebrated his homecoming from serving in Afghanistan by donating a U.S. flag that had flown in Afghanistan to Morrisville Borough. Along with Morrisville Mayor David Rivella, I recognized Petty Officer Snow during a Morrisville Borough Council meeting. I thank him for his service to our country and community.

# Welcoming a guest chaplain in Harrisburg

Cantor Neil Schnitzer served as the House's guest chaplain on December 11, giving the opening prayer in the House of Representatives. Cantor Schnitzer, a resident of Newtown Township, serves at Temple Emanuel in Cherry Hill, N.J. He was accompanied by his wife, Newtown Township Supervisor Linda Bobrin.



## Report a pothole on a state road



Call Rep. Warren's office:  
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**Rep. Perry Warren**

lpo.kl.0318

## My staff is ready to serve

My staff is ready to help you with any state-related issue you might have. Visit us at the District Office at 91 S. Main St. in Yardley, or call the District Office at 215-493-5420. We got the team together for this photo the Friday before the Super Bowl.



## New wine and spirits store opens

I was joined by members of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, Newtown Borough Mayor Charles Swartz, members of the Newtown Borough Council, liquor store staff members and store customers as we cut the ribbon to open the new state Fine Wine and Good Spirits store in Newtown Borough. It is the seventh-largest Fine Wine and Good Spirits store in Pennsylvania.