

103RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

SUMMER 2024

STATE REP.

PATTY KIM

CAPITOL OFFICE: 38A East Wing | P.O. Box 202103 | Harrisburg, PA 17120-2103 | (717) 783-9342 | Fax: (717) 787-8957

DISTRICT OFFICE: 717 Market Street, Suite 110 | Lemoyne, PA 17043 | (717) 303-3715 | Toll-Free: (833) 787-4239



BUDGET MAKES COMPREHENSIVE INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION

Last month, I voted for a state budget that marks a big victory for Pennsylvania, paving the way for a brighter future for all. This budget aligns with the priorities of Pennsylvanians, showcasing our capacity to lead and collaborate effectively, even in a divided government.

Foremost, it allocates substantial additional funding for schools, focusing on those in vulnerable districts. With an unprecedented \$1.3 billion investment, this budget aims to support every student and fulfill our moral, constitutional and legal responsibilities to our children, schools, parents and taxpayers.



The \$1.3 billion infusion this year includes \$526 million to begin to fix the funding disparities among Pennsylvania's school districts – as directed by court – and help homeowners who've been shouldering the heaviest burden in paying for their schools.

In our legislative district, I am proud to have helped deliver more than \$22 million for our area school districts of Harrisburg, West Shore, East Pennsboro, and Camp Hill.

The budget also delivers wins for health care in Pennsylvania, including an additional \$2.5 million in funding for maternal health care initiatives. It also contains \$3 million for a new initiative on menstrual hygiene products.

While there is more I will continue to work at, this budget also makes historic investments in public safety, community and economic development and much more.

BILL TO ESTABLISH STATE ALZHEIMER'S, DEMENTIA OFFICE PASSES HOUSE

I'm pleased to report that a bill to establish a state office to respond to Alzheimer's, dementia and related disorders passed the House this summer.

House Bill 2400 would create a permanent Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Office and establish a 28-member advisory committee, both within the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. The office would coordinate across state agencies, advocate policy and leverage resources to better respond to the unique and complex needs of those living with Alzheimer's and other dementia.

Supporting specialized care can significantly enhance the quality of life for dementia patients, providing them with the necessary medical, psychological, and social support through a public-facing office. Public health initiatives can promote early diagnosis and intervention, which can slow disease progression and improve outcomes.

By 2025, the number of Pennsylvanians living with Alzheimer's is expected to increase to 320,000 with the total Medicaid costs to care for them expected to increase by over 10%.

The bill is with the Senate for consideration.

CONTRACEPTIVE ACCESS PROPOSAL PASSES HOUSE

I'm happy to announce that we could finally arrive at better contraceptive health care in Pennsylvania under a proposal that passed the state House.

House Bill 1140, introduced by my colleague state Rep. Leanne Krueger, D-Delaware, would require health insurance policies to cover all forms of contraceptive care without any out-of-pocket costs to consumers.

Nine out of 10 women of reproductive age have used some form of contraception at some point in their lives, but many contraceptives are still difficult to access. I'm proud to vote to protect access to contraceptives so that women in Pennsylvania can choose the right time to start a family.

The bill is with the Senate for consideration.



I-83 SOUTH BRIDGE FUNDING IS WELCOME NEWS

I was pleased last month to welcome historic federal funding for replacement of the John Harris Memorial Bridge.

The Federal Highway Administration's \$500 million Large Bridge Project Grant, secured by the Shapiro administration through the Biden administration, is the largest grant in state history for a transportation project, according to Gov. Josh Shapiro.

According to PennDOT, the I-83 South Bridge is reaching the end of its serviceable lifespan. In addition to replacing the bridge, the Lemoyne interchange will be reconfigured, the South Third Street bridge

in Lemoyne will be replaced, and the viaduct from the Susquehanna River to Cameron Street, including the Front Street/2nd Street interchange, will be reconstructed.

We greatly appreciate the federal and state governments working together to secure this truly historic funding. Investing in the greater Harrisburg region is always a wise move. Enhanced infrastructure not only improves daily commutes but also drives economic growth, connects us to opportunities and ensures a resilient and thriving region for generations to come.

FIGHTING FOR YOUR HEALTH CARE!

Bill offering help for Pennie premiums becomes law

Pennsylvanians who buy health insurance through Pennie could in the future receive financial assistance to help pay their premiums under a bill of mine that passed the House this summer.

My H.B. 2234 sets up a framework that allows Pennie to award financial assistance to Pennie customers to help pay their premiums, if funding becomes available. I'm proud to report that my proposal became law as part of Act 54 of 2024.

Pennie provides excellent health care coverage for hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians who fall outside of traditional work-related coverage options, but many families still struggle to meet their deductibles or pay their premiums.

Pennie and the reinsurance program have been very successful. This past open enrollment period, a record 435,000 Pennsylvanians bought their health insurance through Pennie. But many Pennsylvanians – especially those coming off Medicaid – cannot afford a Pennie plan. Many others technically have coverage through Pennie, but that coverage has a deductible in the thousands of dollars.

I was proud to spearhead this new law so more people could get insurance, and more people get better insurance in the future. The improvement can really save lives.

New law requiring coverage of biomarker testing allows for more targeted therapies sooner

Precision medicine is an evolving field in which health care providers use analysis of a patient's biospecimen, known as biomarker testing, to determine which medical treatments will work best for that patient. By combining the data gathered through biomarker testing with an individual's medical history, circumstances and values, health care providers are better able to direct a patient to targeted effective and efficient treatment.

I was proud to vote for legislation (H.B. 1754) – which Gov. Shapiro signed into law in July – that requires health insurance policies to cover biomarker testing. This will ensure patients get more personalized treatments sooner.

These treatments can benefit patients with diseases such as cancer, multiple sclerosis, heart disease, and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

Telemedicine health insurance coverage legislation signed into law

I'm proud to announce that S.B. 739 was signed into law, now requiring health insurance and managed care plans to pay for covered services delivered through telemedicine.

Simply put, this expands access to critical telehealth services for millions of Pennsylvanians.

I was proud to play a role as the House Insurance Chair by moving this bill out of my committee and to the House chamber for a vote. After many negotiations and bipartisan work, we were able to finally see this law become reality, which allows the choice of a tele-visit or an in-person health care appointment. For some this is an option and for others this is a necessity.

As a result of the new law, if a commercial health insurer provides coverage for a health care service that is performed in person, it now must also cover that same service via telemedicine as long as the required standard of care is met. It also sets telehealth accessibility standards for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Other bills the Chair has moved out of the House Insurance Committee

H.B. 2138 Coverage of blood pressure cuffs for pregnant and post-partum insureds

H.B. 660 Disclosure and consumer protections of pet insurance policies

H.B. 2096 Continued access to surplus lines insurance

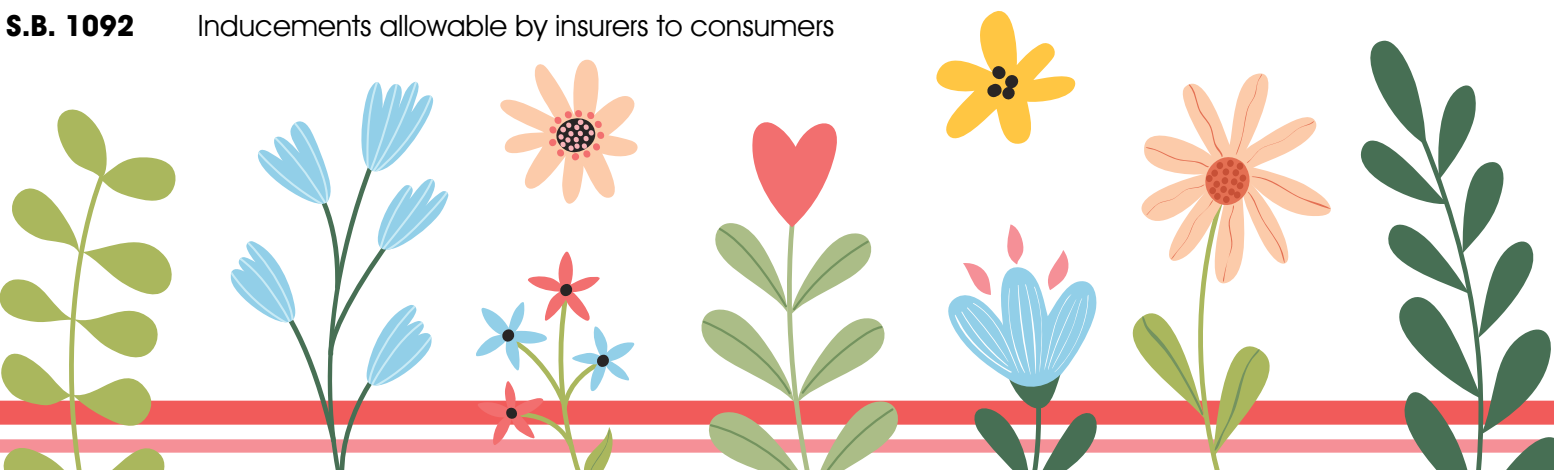
H.B. 2268 Coverage of speech therapy in health insurance policies

H.B. 1140 Contraceptive coverage in health insurance policies

H.B. 1021 No discrimination based on a naloxone prescription when underwriting life insurance policies

S.B. 943 Travel insurance coverage and consumer protections

S.B. 1092 Inducements allowable by insurers to consumers





State Representative
PATTY KIM

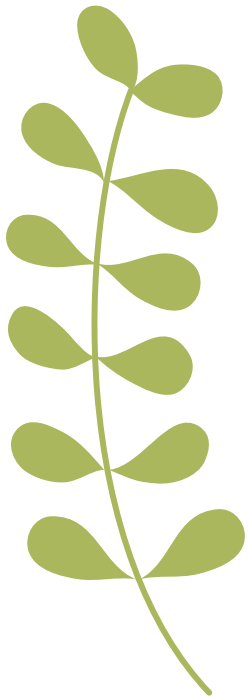
38A East Wing
P.O. Box 202103
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2103

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 529

lpo.kw.0824

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar for my upcoming events!



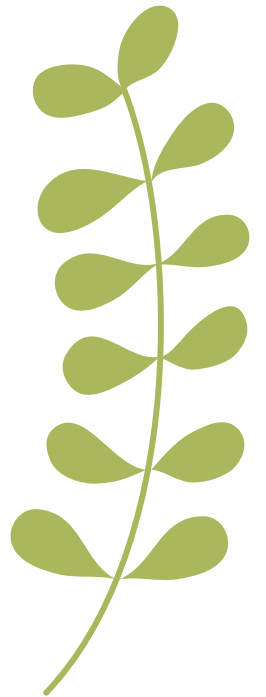

SENIOR HEALTH FAIR

September 20
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Greater Zion Missionary Baptist Church
212 N. Progress Ave.
Harrisburg, PA 17109



STATE REPRESENTATIVES KIM, MADSEN & FLEMING PRESENT
PARDON RESOURCE EXPO
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2
11 A.M. – 1 P.M.
Allison Hill Community Center
1524 Walnut St., Harrisburg, PA 17103

PROVIDING SECOND CHANCE ADVICE FOR CONSTITUENTS TO HELP THEM ERASE THEIR CRIMINAL RECORDS THAT ARE AT LEAST 5 YRS OLD IN PA.




VETERAN Breakfast

NOVEMBER 8 • 9 A.M. - 11 A.M.
150 S. 43rd St., Harrisburg, PA 17111



HOLIDAY Youth HEALTH FAIR

Saturday, November 23 • 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Camp Curtin YMCA • 2135 N. 6th St., Harrisburg, PA 17110

- Resources and Fun Activities for Youth
- Games
- Entertainment
- Giveaways
- Food