

Rep. RABB

PROUDLY SERVING THE



Legislative District

Dear Neighbor,

No single newsletter can address every important matter, as tempting as it is for me to try! That said, my goal is to connect a few key topics in ways that relate to many other pressing issues by providing context for constituents to process them from an informed perspective.

Currently, our democracy is in shambles and worsens with each new assault to it by forces that choose power over the public good.

Whether it's insurrection on the national level or corruption on the local level, genuine, empathetic and principled public service is more needed than ever. So too is heightened civic literacy and engagement, because public servants are only as good as how informed the people who they serve are.

How can we demand greater accountability and transparency in government if the governed don't know what government does? And how can elected officials truly serve their communities if we don't know how to explain how our work impacts the things the people they serve care about most?

This is the power of civic literacy toward strengthening our democracy and society itself. It's that hard, unglamorous work that happens in between elections that matters most.

In other words, it's about investing broadly, generously and creatively in "We, the people."

As a community, we are only as good, as safe and as healthy as our most vulnerable neighbor. Therefore, it can never just be what are you doing; rather, it's about what we do together. After all, as my grandmother used to say, "Everybody has a role." And for each of us, that role will likely change over time. Sometimes, we may not like the role we have, but it's no less important to honor it.

My role as your state representative is to serve with integrity, passion and persistence as a state lawmaker amid growing fascism and intolerance in the nation's largest full-time state legislature.

I'm one of 90 Democratic members in a Republican-controlled body of 203 state representatives in which any bill you care about needs no fewer than 102 votes to pass.

This means that working in good faith with lawmakers from all backgrounds is essential, no matter how challenging the task.

My job is to create, amend and repeal state law and to vote on an annual budget, all while upholding my oath to honor our state and US constitutions. I do this job so much better when I have neighbors who are invested in this work because they realize its value to their families and the things they care about most.

Without our continued efforts to protect and strengthen this fragile democracy of ours, little else will matter. So, if you care about public education, environmental stewardship, reducing gun violence, higher wages, affordable housing, reproductive rights, the arts, supporting local business and so on, know that none of that will matter if our democratic institutions are destroyed. And the best defense of these ideals and institutions is by showing up, educating ourselves and others, and engaging in whatever ways that you are moved to before it's too late to speak up.

My team and I are here to help connect the dots for you and provide you with the quality of service and care everyone deserves.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Rabb".

LEGISLATION

The House and Senate are not in session during the summer; however, I have continued to draft and create legislation. To learn more, please use the QR code at the end of this article or contact my office.

Prohibiting Cooperation with Out-of-State Criminal Abortion Investigations – HB 2766 In the wake of the removal of federal protections for abortion, my colleagues and I have introduced this bill that would protect all people who have or will seek out abortions from out-of-state investigations.

Minimum Wage – HB15 This legislation would increase the minimum wage over time to \$15/hour, abolish the sub-minimum wage, protect the gratuities of workers from wage theft, and expand the universe of beneficiaries to include gig workers,

incarcerated workers, and workers with severe intellectual disabilities.

Clean Energy Future – HB 100 The science is clear: the climate crisis is happening, it is caused by human activity, and the consequences of inaction will be severe. Pennsylvania's transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050 must start now!

Modernizing Candidacy & Political Party Requirements for Special Elections The processes for nominating candidates for special elections often discourage broad participation from prospective candidates or timely voter education about the process. My bill would establish transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in the special election process for senators and representatives in the General Assembly.

Reducing Gun Violence – Stopping the Influx of Guns from Lax Firearms Dealers In & Around the City Research shows that the flow of illegal firearms transcends county and city boundaries – in fact, most firearms recovered by law enforcement originate in counties surrounding urban centers where we have seen the most gun violence. This legislation would use an evidence-based approach to tackling the gun violence epidemic well upstream from other interventions to address the crisis from the supply side.



To see additional bills and resolutions I have introduced, such as the National Popular Vote and the 4-day work week, scan the QR code.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As the country and city started to open back up after being on lockdown for almost two years, it felt good to get back in the community! My team and I were excited to re-engage with constituents through different events.

Spring Shredding – In April we held a shredding event. There were long lines, but the energy was high, and people were able to safely dispose of sensitive documents to avoid identity theft. I was happy to partner with Mt. Airy CDC, the Mu Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. [for the third time] and The Office of the District Attorney who collected and safely disposed of outdated and unwanted medication. It was a great day, and we look forward to our next shredding event this September.



Phenomenal Women – We held our Phenomenal Women event in April, where we recognized women who have quietly been doing tremendous work in the 200th District. These women were nominated by friends, colleagues and family members who wanted to shout out their “superpowers” as under-the-radar leaders, caregivers, and changemakers. It is always my honor to present this award to the women who do so much for the people of our district, and this year’s recipients were truly phenomenal! Below are only a few of the honorees.



Word Search Challenge

What do you think that all these words have in common? Please email me at RepRabb@pahouse.net or scan the QR code with "Word Search" in the subject line when you have completed the word search. I'll add your name to my social media.



List of words to find:

DEMOCRACY
 LITERACY
 VOTING
 TRANSPARENCY
 ACCOUNTABILITY
 EQUITY
 POLICY
 CONSTITUENTS
 ADVOCACY
 PHENOMENAL
 SENIOR
 SHREDDING
 FESTIVAL
 HEMP
 RENEWABLE
 CANNABIS
 FAIR FUNDING
 PENNSYLVANIA
 INTERN
 ACTIVIST
 YOUTH
 MIND
 BODY
 SOUL
 PHILADELPHIA
 UNCLAIMED
 PROPERTY

REP. RABB'S WORD SEARCH!

B	O	R	P	H	I	L	A	D	E	L	P	H	I	A
R	X	C	G	E	G	L	K	U	Q	Y	S	O	L	S
U	G	P	E	M	I	I	Y	F	Y	C	T	T	A	L
M	N	R	L	P	F	T	C	H	C	A	N	G	V	P
I	I	O	B	N	U	E	N	T	A	C	E	N	I	H
N	D	P	A	R	N	R	E	U	R	O	U	I	T	E
D	D	E	W	O	D	A	R	O	C	V	T	T	S	N
A	E	R	E	I	I	C	A	Y	O	D	I	O	E	O
C	R	T	N	N	N	Y	P	X	M	A	T	V	F	M
T	H	Y	E	E	G	Z	S	J	E	F	S	L	L	E
I	S	I	R	S	I	Z	N	K	D	O	N	U	X	N
V	Y	T	I	L	I	B	A	T	N	U	O	C	C	A
I	Y	T	I	U	Q	E	R	D	F	S	C	O	U	L
S	C	R	X	M	M	A	T	F	B	O	D	Y	H	W
T	W	W	Z	I	H	D	E	M	I	A	L	C	N	U

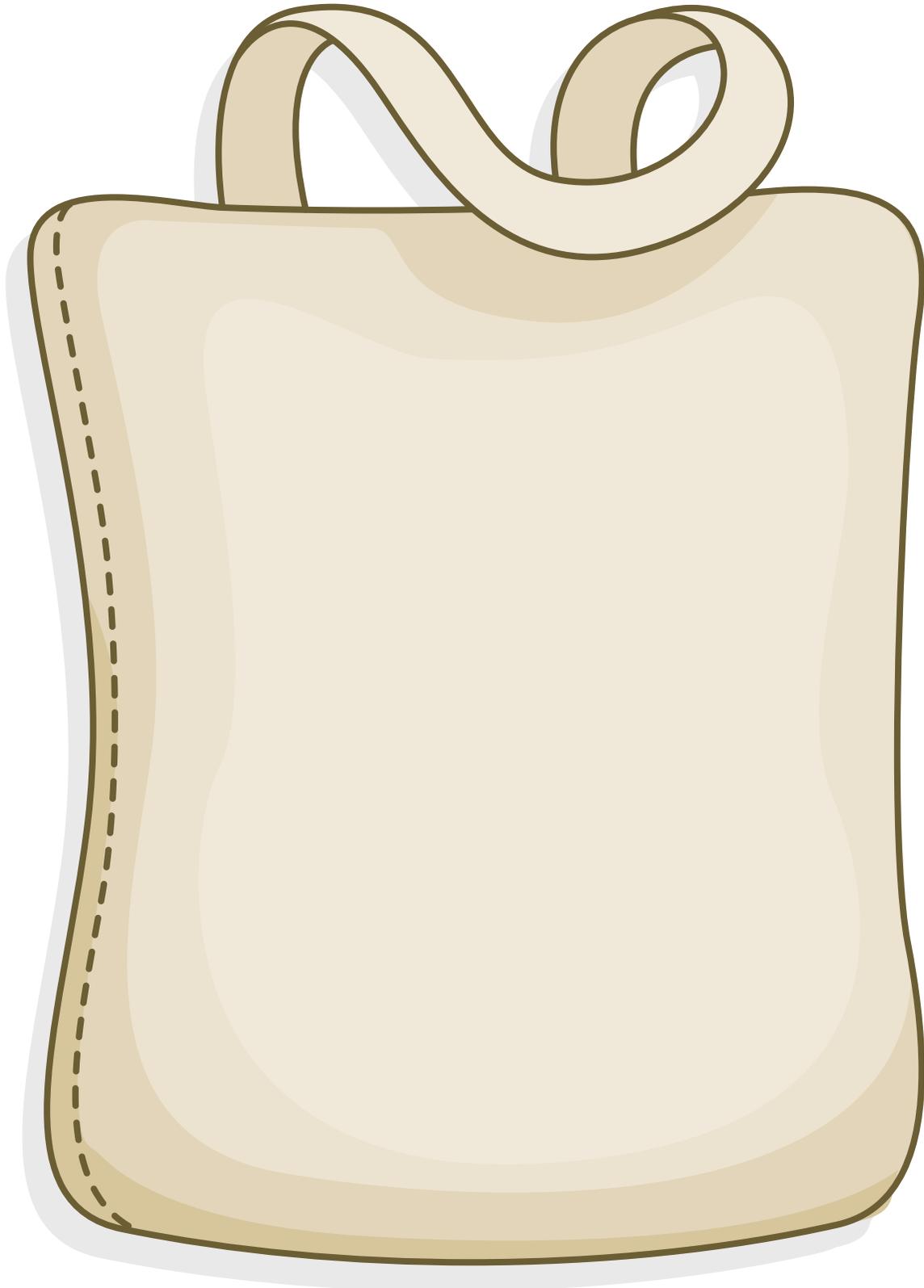
Senior-to-Senior Program – In March we piloted a Senior-to-Senior Program where we paired ten high school seniors with ten senior citizens from the community to learn how to safely use technology to access state resources and improve their daily lives. My staff saw the need when calls would come into the office for resources that could easily be attained by a simple search online. So, we reached out to Hill Freedman Academy, and their principal, Mr. Majewski, enthusiastically responded. He got one of his best teachers, Mr. Emerson, to be the liaison and galvanize his seniors to create lessons to educate their elders. There was a four-week series of classes at West Oak Lane Library that culminated with a graduation celebration. The pilot was such a success that there will be second cohort this fall, and Chestnut Hill College will be partnering as well. If you are interested, please contact my office for more information.



I'm glad that grocery stores in our city no longer use plastic bags. Here's a canvas bag that you can easily make. Add a cool picture that makes you happy. Don't forget to send it to me at RepRabb@PaHouse.net or scan the QR code. I'll post it on my social media.



Design your own canvas bag





Although I am not in session in the summer months, people travel to Harrisburg to share their concerns with lawmakers. I made a special trip in August to spend time with youth activists from three different Philadelphia social action groups: Philly Bolt, Frontline Dads and PA Youth Votes. I led 45 energized young people on a tour of the Capitol, shared lunch with them and then listened as they held a rally on the iconic steps in the Capitol Rotunda, where they expressed the need for swift changes to gun laws in Pennsylvania and Philadelphia to end the violence that impacts their lives daily.



Since I was elected in 2017, my office has hosted over 45 interns ranging from high school juniors to graduate students. This summer I had three brilliant interns: Devon Burton, Miles Younkin-Gomez and Viktor Kagan. Devon is just beginning his college career as a freshman at Eastern University, while Miles and Viktor are both entering their senior year at Temple and Yale. They worked from June thru August in my district office assisting constituents, tabling at events and spearheading a school supply drive. They also traveled to Harrisburg and participated in a youth-led rally against gun violence. I wish them well as they head back to school, and now they are and will ALWAYS be part of the Team 200 Family!



My team receives calls about various issues in the community and often works very closely with the 14th Police District. This summer we were heartbroken to learn about the passing of Officer Mecca Washington. Officer Washington served as the Victim Assistance Officer where she assisted countless victims of crime and domestic violence. She was a servant in the community and a friend to my staff. I honored her as one of the Phenomenal Woman for Woman's History Month in 2022 for her commitment to helping people with a humble and nonjudgmental spirit. She will be greatly missed and always remembered.

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

If you have questions about any of the following state services, you can email me at RepRabb@PaHouse.net or call my office for assistance!

Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Program If you are age 65 or older; a widow or widower age 50 or older; or have a disability and are age 18 or older, you can apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2021. The deadline to apply is December 31, 2022.

Included in this year's state budget was money for a one-time bonus rebate for recipients of this program that is equal to 70 percent of the original rebate amount. If you haven't applied for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program yet, you will still receive this bonus. Apply now.



Scan this QR code to apply

Unclaimed Property The state Treasury Office has millions of dollars in unclaimed property, and some of it could be yours! Unclaimed property is any financial asset that has been left with a bank, insurance company, or business or organization without any activity for five years. You can go to <https://www.patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property/> or contact my office, so we can help you claim what's yours!

Water Assistance If you are at risk of having your water shut off, you can get assistance through the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). Visit www.dhs.pa.gov/WaterHelp to apply or see if you qualify.

LIHEAP The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program will open up for applications this fall. Call my office in October to make an appointment for assistance with completing your application or if you need any information about how to apply.





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UPCOMING EVENTS

Richard Allen SEPTA Station Celebration Coming Soon



In June, SEPTA GM/CEO Leslie S. Richards joined my staff, Rev. Dr. Mark Tyler, and leaders of First Episcopal District AME Church to showcase the design of the historical panels honoring the memory and accomplishments of Richard Allen. The decorative panels will tell the story of Allen's contributions to racial justice in Philadelphia. They will be in the garden area of the outbound side of SEPTA's Chestnut Hill West Regional Rail Station.

Please join us for this special event in September.

**REP. RABB'S DROP, ROLL OR STROLL
SUMMER PAPER SHREDDING
& MEDICATION DISPOSAL DAY**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
9 A.M. – 11 A.M.**

**New Covenant Campus
7500 Germantown Ave., 19119**

We are partnering with the District Attorney's Office to safely discard old medication – pill and/or liquid form.

- TWO BAGS PER PERSON ✓
- NO MAGAZINES ✓
- NO BINDER CLIPS ✓
- LIMITLESS MEDS ✓

Rep. RABB
OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISTOPHER RABB

Follow me on social media!
@RepRabb

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER RABB'S
GROWN FOLKS
FALL FESTIVAL**

**TO ENHANCE THE MIND, BODY
AND SOUL OF SENIORS**

**Saturday
October 1
12 P.M. – 3 P.M.**

**St. Raymond's School Yard
1350 E. Vernon Rd.
Philadelphia, PA 19150**

Join us for elderly music, vendors, line dancing, snacks and fun!

Rep. Rabb and his staff will be answering questions and providing information on state-government programs available to seniors in our community.

Rep. RABB
OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISTOPHER RABB

Rep. Rabb's office at (215) 242-7300 for more information.