In my February 11, 2021, Governing Outlines Budget for 2020–2021, the governor’s budget also makes key investments to help Philadelphia reduce gun violence. I’ve brought Gov. Tom Wolf signed the Clean Slate Act (Act 111) into law, which allows people who have paid all court-ordered financial obligations and have been conviction-free for at least 10 years to seal their criminal records, provided they were not convicted of an ungraded offense which carries a maximum sentence of one year or less, and provided they have not been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor that is punishable by one year or more in prison.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR CLEAN SLATE?

Since Gov. Tom Wolf signed the Clean Slate Act in 2018, I’ve travelled the state talking about how Clean Slate can help and held Clean Slate events in several districts. This law can provide life-changing opportunities for people, so I’ll continue to be vocal about ensuring everyone knows that their second chance is possible through Clean Slate.

I support the governor’s proposal to increase funding for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency’s Second Chance Task Force by $4 million to the task force and an additional $6 million to the governor create the Gun Violence Task Force, which aims to decrease gun violence. We simply can’t allow this violence to continue, and I’ll stand with Gov. Wolf to fight against it.

The grant funding comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and the governor is looking to allow schools to apply for $25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to Philadelphia, the governor is looking to allow schools to apply for grant money to replace crumbling infrastructure and get back to proper staffing levels. The governor is also asking for $2.5 billion to help Philadelphia reduce gun violence.

In recent budgets, I’ve been proud to vote for recent budgets that have increased the education funding our schools receive. This year is no different, as we’re looking to provide more educational opportunities at all levels. Our schools need more educational opportunities at all levels. Our schools need more resources and support to thrive, and our district here in Philadelphia.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH HOME HEATING COSTS?

Pennsylvania’s Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a vital safety net and can provide life-changing opportunities, such as a broken furnace or an unexpected fuel shortage.

Rental and homeowners who qualify can have a cash grant – which does not need to be repaid – sent directly to their utility company or fuel provider. Grants range from $200 to $1,000 based on household size, income and fuel type. For more information or to see if you qualify, please contact my office or visit our website or www.dhs.pa.gov/services/assistance/LIHEAP.asp.

CONGRESSMAN DWIGHT EVANS JOINS US FOR OFFICE HOURS

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I love helping bring the Pennsylvania WoodMobile to local schools so our students can learn about the vast forestry industry that exists in other parts of our state.

I’m a local child and a bike rider who loves both! Biking is something I’ll never get tired of! The smiles on kids’ faces as they receive their own bike is something I will always remember. The smiles on people’s faces while promoting a healthy, active lifestyle in our children. The smiles on the community we live in. Biking represents fun, freedom and fresh air while promoting a healthy, active lifestyle in our children.

The idea for a bike giveaway in December comes from my belief that all children should have the opportunity to own a bike and use it to see the community we live in. In fact, I have donated to my annual Bike 186 event. The idea for a bike giveaway and community members to ask for donations to host my annual Bike 186 event. The idea for a bike giveaway and community members to ask for donations to host my annual Bike 186 event.

To get a REAL ID:

If you have your first driver’s license or photo ID after 2003, you may be able to apply online. Because PennDOT may have your documentation already on file, you can apply online if you have been pre-verified. You may also apply online if you have been pre-verified.

Online:
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Each year, I contact local businesses and community leaders to ask for donations to host my annual Bike 186 event. The idea for a bike giveaway and community members to ask for donations to host my annual Bike 186 event.
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Each year, I love hosting my Trunk or Treat event to give neighbors and children a safe, fun Halloween experience outside my district office.


In mid-January, I visited a Philadelphia County prison to speak to juvenile inmates about being ready to make the most of their second chance once they’re released.

This year, on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, I was joined by community-based legal service organizations for a Clean Slate clinic. In just two hours, we helped over 50 of our neighbors see if they’re eligible for Clean Slate.

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

My office has received Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program application forms from the state Department of Revenue—and my staff is ready to help you file yours! The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is $35,000 a year for homeowners and $15,000 annually for renters. Half of Social Security income is excluded and the maximum standard rebate is $650.

If you receive a letter or phone call offering assistance for a fee, please ignore it. The Department of Revenue does not charge a fee to process your application. If you need help filing your application, please come to my district office at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. or call us at 215-952-3378.

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Necessary documentation:

• Social Security card
• Birth certificate OR valid passport
• Two acceptable proofs of PA residency:
  • Current PA driver’s license/ID card
  • Current PA vehicle registration
• Proof of insurance
• Bank statement (no more than 90 days old)
• W-2 form or pay stub
• Tax records
• Lease agreement or mortgage documents
• Proof of all legal name changes (if applicable)
• Certified marriage certificate
• Court order

Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID to:

• Board a domestic flight
• Enter a federal building
• Enter a military base

You DO NOT need a REAL ID to drive, vote, access hospitals, visit the post office, access federal courts, or apply for or receive federal benefits.

To learn more, please visit: www.dmv.pa.gov/realid

October 1, 2020 is the deadline to get a REAL ID.

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Real ID requirements:
Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID or a passport to:
- Board a domestic flight
- Enter a secure federal building
- Enter a military base

To learn more, please visit: www.dmv.pa.gov/realid

You DO NOT need a REAL ID to drive, vote, access hospitals, visit the post office, access federal courts, or apply for or receive federal benefits.

necessary documentation:

- Social Security card
- Birth certificate OR valid passport
- Two acceptable proofs of PA residency:
  - Current PA vehicle registration
  - Current PA driver’s license/ID card
- Proof of insurance
- Current PA vehicle registration
- Tax records
- Lease agreement or mortgage documents
- Court order
- Proof of all legal name changes (if applicable)
- W-2 form or pay stub
- Bank statement (no more than 90 days old)
- Proof of all legal name changes (if applicable)
- Certified marriage certificate
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October 1, 2020 is the day REAL ID goes into effect.

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY


This year, on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, I was joined by community-based legal service organizations for a Clean Slate clinic. In just two hours, we helped over 70 of our neighbors see if they’re eligible for a Clean Slate.

Each year, I love hosting my Trunk or Treat event to give local families and children a safe, fun Halloween experience outside my district office.

In mid-January, I visited a Philadelphia County prison to speak to juvenile inmates about being ready to make the most of their second chance once they’re released.

For many, the rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is $35,000 a year for individuals and $70,000 for married couples. Half of Social Security income is excluded and the maximum standard rebate is $650.

If you receive a letter or phone call offering assistance for a rebate, please ignore it. The Department of Revenue does not charge a fee to process your application. If you have questions or need help with your application, please come to my district office at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. or call us at 215-952-3378.

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I encourage you to fill out your application right away. For assistance, please call my office at 215-952-3378.

I love helping bring the Pennsylvania WoodMobile to local schools so our students can learn about the vast forestry industry that exists in other parts of our state.

Last fall, we held a Coat of College event at Prep Charter High School to help local students and their parents understand the choices and options that go into paying for higher education.

In December comes from my belief that all children should have the opportunity to own a bike and use it to explore the community we live in. Biking represents fun, freedom and fresh air while promoting a healthy, active lifestyle in our children. The smiles on kids’ faces as they receive their own bike are something I’ll never get tired of!
We all understand the value of clean air, land and water, continue, and I’ll stand with Gov. Wolf to fight against it. We simply can’t allow this violence that’s plaguing our streets and destroying our families to increase by $25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to Philadelphia, the governor is looking to provide schools with an additional $6 million to remove illegal guns from our streets. Thankfully, this budget proposal seeks to increase the number of young children who take part in Pennsylvania’s Pre-K Counts and Head Start programs, as well as implement a statewide expansion to full-day kindergarten for every child. It also looks to increase basic education funding by $100 million for K-12 students and increase special education funding by $25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to Philadelphia, the governor is looking to provide schools with $4 million to help them increase readiness and get our young students on the right path to learning.”
We all understand the value of clean air, land and water, and destroying our families to continue, and I’ll stand with programs shown to decrease gun violence. We the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to task force and an additional $6 million to a program through our streets. Thankfully, this budget adds $4 million to the Gun Violence Task Force, which removes illegal guns from of my fellow legislators, we helped the governor create the The budget also makes key investments to help Philadelphia deserve a safe and secure learning environment, and this for grant money to replace crumbling infrastructure and get by $25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to K-12 students and increase the special education funding looks to increase basic education funding by $100 million for expansion to full-day kindergarten for every child. It also and Head Start program, as well as implement a statewide who take part in Pennsylvania’s Pre-K Counts program. This budget seeks to increase the number of young children for healthy eating to last a lifetime. Studies have shown that students who eat a healthy, nutritious diet are able to learn and retain information much better than students who are hungry. It’s so much easier to start healthy eating habits at a young age, so I’m thrilled that this grant will not only help students have education success, but hopefully create the foundation of healthy eating to last a lifetime.

CONGRESSMAN DWIGHT EVANS JOINS US FOR OFFICE HOURS

I’m pleased to announce that Congressman Dwight Evans, my former college when he represented parts of Philadelphia in the state House, will be sending staff at my district office on Point Breeze Avenue to help with any questions you may have about federal government issues. On the 4th Thursday of each month between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., you or a member of my staff will be on hand in my office, and you have your questions on federal agencies and issues answered. Don’t hesitate to stop by at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. to learn more about the collaboration between state and federal legislators.

GOVERNOR OUTLINES BOLD BUDGET FOR 2020-2021

In early February, Gov. Tom Wolf outlined his sixth budget proposal and it included many priorities that we’ve been fighting for over the past few years. I’ve been proud to vote for recent budgets that have increased the education funding our schools receive. This year is no different, as we’re looking to provide more educational opportunities at all levels. This budget seeks to increase the number of young children who take part in Pennsylvania’s Pre-K Counts program and Head Start program, as well as implement a statewide expansion to full-day kindergarten for every child. It also looks to increase basic education funding by $100 million for K-12 students and increase the special education funding by $25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to Philadelphia, the governor is looking to allow schools to apply for grant money to replace crumbling infrastructure and get new buildings in our schools. Students and teachers deserve a safe and secure learning environment, and this budget will help them achieve that.

The budget also makes key investments to help Philadelphia reduce gun violence. I’ve brought Gov. Wolf to Philadelphia in the past to show him firsthand the unrelenting violence here for many Philadelphia land. With help from some of my fellow legislators, we helped the governor create the Gun Violence Task Force, which removes illegal guns from our streets. Thankfully, this budget adds $4 million to the task force and an additional $5 million to a program through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. We simply can’t afford to allow this violence that’s plaguing our streets and tearing our families apart to continue, and I’ll stand with Gov. Wolf to fight against it.

We all understand the value of clean air, land and water, and this budget proposal aims to strengthen and protect our beautiful environment and natural resources. We can’t protect our environment without the employees who work for the Environmental Protection Agency and the governor is looking to increase funding so we can get back to proper staffing levels. The governor is also asking the legislature to pass legislation that would increase safety during the construction and operation of pipelines, and if they’re operated as safely as possible. Though there’s much more to highlight in the governor’s budget proposal, the last item I’ll mention specifically is his call to increase the minimum wage in Pennsylvania to $12.50 per hour. Our neighboring states have increased their minimum wage, but Pennsylvania is still using the federal government’s standard of $7.25 per hour. This will allow that inflation has driven up the cost of groceries, gas, and rent without affecting you in our state. It’s crucial to expect adults to support themselves, let alone children, on only $7.25 per hour. I’ve been extremely vocal about raising the minimum wage and I continue to do so. Over the next few months, there will be multiple budget hearings where specific plans and policies will be discussed. The budget bill will certainly change and some of our priorities will happen while others won’t. I’ll keep you my questions about federal agencies and issues answered. Don’t hesitate to stop by at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. to learn more about the collaboration between state and federal legislators.

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Since Gov. Tom Wolf signed the Clean Slate Act in 2015, the state has helped thousands of the Clean Slate can help and held Clean Slate events during the construction and operation of pipelines, and if they’re operated as safely as possible. Though there’s much more to highlight in the governor’s budget proposal, the last item I’ll mention specifically is his call to increase the minimum wage in Pennsylvania to $12.50 per hour. Our neighboring states have increased their minimum wage, but Pennsylvania is still using the federal government’s standard of $7.25 per hour. This will allow that inflation has driven up the cost of groceries, gas, and rent without affecting you in our state. It’s crucial to expect adults to support themselves, let alone children, on only $7.25 per hour. I’ve been extremely vocal about raising the minimum wage and I continue to do so.

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