



The Daley News

from Representative Mary Jo Daley



Spring 2013

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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present my first newsletter to constituents of the 148th Legislative District. Since being sworn in as your state representative on Jan. 1, I have had the opportunity to visit each municipality and meet with elected officials, municipal staff, police chiefs and other emergency responders. I have visited schools, and met with school board members and students.

I have also had the opportunity to meet many of you as you visited my district office or traveled to the Capitol in Harrisburg. You have written emails to let me know your opinions on matters and while we may not always have agreed, I have always taken your feedback into consideration. I appreciate your thoughts and your willingness to share them with me and look forward to continued dialogue.

Please take a few moments to read through this first newsletter. I have attempted to provide you with useful and interesting information. I hope to see you at our community events planned for the spring and summer months.

During the month of June, I will be spending a great deal of time in Harrisburg working with my colleagues on the commonwealth's budget. The budget is one of the most important pieces of legislation that I will vote on as your representative, and both of the issues explained to the right will likely be an important part of the budget discussion, so it is important that I hear your feedback and concerns. Always feel free to visit my website at www.pahouse.com/mdaley, call at 610-832-1679, or stop in to my district office with any questions or comments. Thank you again for putting your trust in me to represent you in Harrisburg!

Regards,

Mary Jo Daley

Earlier this year, Gov. Tom Corbett presented his annual budget address in a joint session of the House and Senate. I was honored to be a member of the committee to escort the governor into the Hall of the House. Unfortunately, the policy proposals the governor presented do not adequately address Pennsylvania's priorities and ties some of our most critical needs to uncertain revenue sources.

EDUCATION

The governor's proposal links investments to education with the privatization of state liquor stores. Under his plan, the governor would use revenue from the sale of liquor and beer retail licenses to private businesses to fund a new education block grant program. This is an attempt to offset over \$1 billion in basic education cuts since the governor took office. However, there are many flaws in this legislation. First, this bill sacrifices stable, long-term revenue from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board wine & spirits stores for a one-time revenue infusion. Gov. Corbett initially touted \$1 billion in one-time revenue for education grants to Pennsylvania schools, however this privatization plan could generate as little as \$425 million, a far cry from the governor's estimates. Even worse, once the system is privatized, it could result in a net loss for the commonwealth since the \$80 million in stable, annual revenue produced by PLCB will be gone. Additionally, this plan would add to Pennsylvania's already high unemployment rate since more than 4,000 PLCB jobs would be eliminated. In addition, many family-owned beer distributors I have spoken with fear this proposal will put them out of business.

The proposed bill would not provide the customer convenience that Pennsylvanians are looking for. In fact, it could have the effect of limiting selection and increasing cost. In addition, there has been no guarantee that any revenue resulting from privatization would be dedicated to education. This is not the way we should be conducting business in the legislature.

The proposed legislation was rushed through the House merely six days after it was introduced, without public hearings. I believe the sale of a major revenue-producing commonwealth asset should be done with great care and thorough vetting, not at a rushed, breakneck pace. No one would argue that our current system in Pennsylvania is perfect, but to privatize such a large, profitable asset while cutting thousands of jobs in such a rushed and careless manner seems foolish. We ought to take time to carefully consider this proposal, while also weighing meaningful modernization efforts that could improve customer convenience without sacrificing needed revenue and jobs.

PENSIONS

Pension reform is another major cornerstone of the governor's budget proposal. The proposed plan would change the current defined benefit plan for public sector employees to a 401(k) style plan, while also changing benefit calculations for current employees. It is ill-advised to propose a plan that breaches current contracts with workers on benefits they have already been promised, placing the commonwealth at the very real risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges, while threatening additional revenue budgeted for this year. Also, the plan would increase management costs as the commonwealth would be charged with maintaining two very different retirement systems, and it threatens further insolvency of our defined benefit plan by removing current contributors from the system.

While I do not agree with the governor's proposals on these issues, I can assure you that I will work with my colleagues in both the House and Senate to find more sensible solutions to properly fund public education and keep the promises made to our retirees.

Rep. Mary Jo Daley sworn in to office; receives committee assignments

I have never felt so proud and honored than I did on New Year's Day this year, when I was sworn in as your new state representative. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve the people of the 148th Legislative District and will work very hard to make a positive impact on our commonwealth and in our community. My committee assignments are:



- **Health, Democratic Secretary**
- **Local Government, Democratic Chair of the Subcommittee on Townships**
- **Finance**
- **State Government**

Rep. Daley, pictured here with her husband Bob Winkelman, is sworn in to her first term as state representative on Jan. 1, 2013.



Rep. Mary Jo Daley speaks at a rally to end gun violence at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown hosted by Mayors Against Illegal Guns.

Safety in Our Communities

There are few things more important than the safety of our children and our communities. That is why I am proud to have been appointed to serve on the House Select Committee on School Safety. The committee is tasked with conducting a thorough study of school safety and security procedures, with the ability to call witnesses and procure documents. Once that study is completed, the committee will issue a report of its findings and recommendations by Sept. 30, 2013.

Set forth by House Resolution 53, adopted in March, the select committee will examine: security policies and procedures in public and nonpublic schools and institutions of higher education in the commonwealth; state laws and regulations related to school safety and security; early detection of potentially violent perpetrators; and any potential budgetary, revenue and governance reforms necessary to address these matters.

Since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut, we are reminded that schools are no longer immune from the violence that plagues other parts of society. I embrace this assignment with great enthusiasm, knowing that when our work is done, it may mean fewer families will endure heavy hearts from unexpected tragedies. If there is any way we can reduce school violence, or the potential for bloodshed, we need to find and implement that idea. I am honored to have a seat at this committee's table, and plan to work tirelessly to see our mission through to completion.

WHAT MY OFFICE CAN DO FOR YOU

My district office staff is here to serve as a resource for you. Here are some examples of how we can help:

- **Pennsylvania's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program**
- **FREE Notary Services for Government Forms**
- **Driver & Vehicle Services or Forms**
- **Birth & Death Certificates**
- **Unemployment Compensation Issues**
- **Consumer Complaints**
- **Insurance Company Complaints**
- **Department of Public Welfare Problems**
- **Any State Government Problem or Issue**



Rep. Daley's district office staff members are here to help you with any state-related issue. Meet the staff: (standing from left) Dave Toth, chief of staff, and Steve Silverman, legislative assistant; and (seated from left) Teresa Tuturice, legislative assistant, and Megan McCarthy, legislative assistant.

IN OUR COMMUNITY



Rep. Mary Jo Daley poses for a photo during a tour of AIM Academy in Whitemarsh Township. Rep. Daley is pictured, from left, with Elliot Holtz, AIM board member and parent; Pat Roberts, AIM executive director; and former Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Ronald Tomalis.

Rep. Mary Jo Daley, second from left, poses with Conshohocken Borough Council members, from left, Paul McConnell, Anita Barton and Ed Phipps at the 2013 Conshohocken St. Patrick's Day Parade.



Rep. Mary Jo Daley, second from left, listens to testimony on environmental issues from Christina Simeone, director of PennFuture's Energy Center for Enterprise and the Environment, at a recent House Democratic Policy Committee Hearing at Ludington Library in Lower Merion. Rep. Daley is joined by, from left, Reps. Steve McCarter, Mark Painter and Vanessa Lowery Brown.



Rep. Mary Jo Daley chats with constituents at the 2013 NarbEarth Day celebration at Narberth Park.

Rep. Mary Jo Daley presents a certificate to a winning student at Whitpain Township's Earth Day Celebration. Rep. Daley, along with other Whitpain Township elected officials, helped present awards to students for their projects commemorating Earth Day.



Rep. Mary Jo Daley, third from left, participated in a grant presentation at Plymouth-Whitemarsh High School, as State Farm Insurance presented a \$2,500 grant to the school for drinking and driving prevention programs and a \$5,000 grant to the Whitemarsh Police Officers' Benevolent Association.

Rep. Mary Jo Daley presents a legislative citation honoring Upper Dublin resident SP4 Sam Fearnside for his service in the U.S. Army. Specialist Fearnside was awarded the Purple Heart resulting from a mortar attack on a base in Afghanistan.





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Rep. Mary Jo Daley cordially invites seniors and their families to attend her Inaugural Senior Fair

I am pleased to announce my Inaugural Senior Fair for the residents of the 148th District. This event is a great way to learn about programs and services designed to help older Pennsylvanians. We will have more than 30 vendors on hand with information on health care programs, Property Tax/Rent Rebates, unclaimed property, transportation, prescription drug plans, consumer protection, and much more! There will also be FREE health screenings, giveaways, door prizes and refreshments! I look forward to seeing you at this great event!

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

9:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, West Cafeteria
201 E. Germantown Pike
Parking lot available off Bicentennial Drive

