



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE **Dan Deasy**

VICE CHAIRMAN, ALLEGHENY COUNTY DELEGATION

SUMMER 2016

27TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT • [WWW.PAHOUSE.NET/DEASY](http://WWW.PAHOUSE.NET/DEASY)

## HERE TO SERVE YOU!

### WEST END

436 S. Main St., Suite 100  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
412-928-9514

### BEECHVIEW

Carnegie Library  
1910 Broadway Ave,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Mondays and Wednesdays

### CAPITOL

323 Irvis Office Building  
P.O. Box 202027  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027  
717-772-8187

### COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Gaming Oversight  
Labor & Industry  
Professional Licensure  
Tourism & Recreational  
Development  
(Democratic chairman,  
Subcommittee on Arts and  
Entertainment)  
Urban Affairs  
(Democratic chairman,  
Subcommittee on Cities, Counties)

### CAUCUS MEMBERSHIPS

Early Childhood Education  
Firefighters & Emergency  
Services  
Pro-Life  
Veterans

## STAY INFORMED!

If you would like to be kept informed via email about what is going on in the district and in Harrisburg, go to the "Contact my office" menu on [www.pahouse.com/Deasy](http://www.pahouse.com/Deasy) and select "Sign Up for Emails."

## Honored for Service



Rep. Deasy presented a legislative citation to Evelyn Neiser, a former Pittsburgh Public Schools board member who was honored at the Langley High School Alumni Dinner for Education & Community Service.

## Deasy, Attorney General's Office bringing senior fraud program to district

I am partnering with the Attorney General's Office to bring its Senior Crime Prevention University program to three locations in my legislative district.

The SCPU program is designed to educate older Pennsylvanians and their families about crime prevention, including the threat of fraud to the senior community, how to avoid becoming a victim and who to call with safety concerns.

Please call my office at 412-928-9514 to register for one of our events at these locations:

**Ingram Borough Building**  
40 W. Prospect Ave.  
6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15

**Carnegie Library – West End Branch**  
47 Wabash Ave.  
4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21

**Carnegie Library – Beechview Branch**  
1910 Broadway Ave.  
4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19

## You're invited to Rep. Deasy's 8th Annual Senior Expo

Please join me for my eighth annual Senior Expo from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9 at a new location, St. Pamphilus Church Hall, 1000 Tropical Ave., Beechview.

My staff and I will serve as hosts for the expo, where representatives from state and local agencies will provide information about services available for older Pennsylvanians.

The event also features free admission, free health screenings, entertainment, exhibits and vendors, and door prizes and refreshments!

Flu and pneumonia vaccines will be offered at no charge with valid Medicare Part B or commercial insurance cards. You can also pay out of pocket for the vaccines if you do not have coverage.

There's more! Technicians from the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office will attend the expo to collect unused or unwanted medications for safe disposal as part of its Project D.U.M.P. (Disposal of Unused Medications Properly).

And, the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' mobile van will be there to provide valuable information for veterans and their families.

Please call my office at 412-928-9514 for more information.

Here's the information to snip and save:

**Rep. Dan Deasy's 8th  
Annual Senior Expo  
Friday, Sept. 9, 2016  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**\*\*New location\*\***

St. Pamphilus Church Hall  
1000 Tropical Ave. • Beechview

## Online voter registration available in Pennsylvania

Gov. Tom Wolf launched a website to make it easier to register to vote and participate in elections. You can access it by visiting [www.register.votespa.com](http://www.register.votespa.com).

The website enables you to make updates to your voter record, such as change of name, address, or party affiliation. You can also request assistance at a polling place.

The online system is more secure because the form will be transmitted directly to the proper county voter registration office for processing, compared with the traditional paper application containing personal information that might pass through several hands before you are officially registered.

The site is linked to the state Department of Transportation, so if you have a driver's license or PennDOT ID card, your signature on file can immediately be linked to your voter record.

If you will be unavailable on Election Day or otherwise unable to visit your polling place, you should request an absentee ballot before 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, and the ballot must be returned to the board of elections before 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4.

You can learn more about absentee voting and download the application by clicking on the "Voters" menu at [www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/index](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/index) and mailing the request to Elections Division/Absentee Voting, 542 Forbes Ave., Suite 604, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2953. Once you receive your ballot, you must return it to the same address before the Nov. 4 deadline. Voter registration and absentee ballot forms are also available in my office.

## Change in polling locations

Due to the decision of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh to close or merge some parishes, there may be a change in voting poll locations previously held in church halls.

At the time of this printing, a decision has not been made on whether voting will still take place at Ascension Parish and Guardian Angels Parish. To ensure that your polling location has not changed, call the Allegheny County Elections office at 412-350-4500, visit their website at <http://apps.county.allegheny.pa.us/website/ElectPollPlace.aspx>, or call my office at 412-928-9514, closer to election day.

## Need to register to vote or apply for an absentee ballot?

### Outreach events at local libraries

At the request of my local libraries, I will be hosting hours at several libraries to provide residents with voter registration forms as well as applications for absentee ballots. My staff will be on hand to answer questions regarding your state government, help residents search for unclaimed property through the Treasury Department and help those 65 or older apply for a senior bus pass. Please stop by and see my staff at any of the following locations:

**Sto-Rox Library**  
500 Chartiers Ave.  
McKees Rocks  
**Tuesday, Sept. 6**  
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Crafton Library**  
140 Bradford Ave.  
Crafton  
**Tuesday, Sept. 6**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Green Tree Library**  
10 W. Manilla Ave.  
Pittsburgh  
**Tuesday, Sept. 13**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Beechview**  
1910 Broadway Ave.  
Pittsburgh  
**Wednesday, Sept. 21**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – West End**  
47 Wabash Ave.  
Pittsburgh  
**Wednesday, Sept. 21**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Sheraden**  
720 Sherwood Ave.  
Pittsburgh  
**Tuesday, Sept. 27**  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.



## Important General Election Dates:

**Oct. 11** – Last day to register to vote.

**Nov. 1** – Last day to apply for an absentee ballot.

**Nov. 4** – Last day for county election offices to receive absentee ballots.

**Nov. 8** – Election Day. Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



## Scout About



Rep. Deasy met with Boy Scout Tim Durkin to discuss state government. Tim interviewed Rep. Deasy as part of his efforts to earn his Eagle Scout award.

## Crafton Towers



Rep. Deasy met with Ann Scott, Crafton borough manager; Nancy Alauzen, service coordinator for Crafton Towers; and a resident of the senior residential facility to discuss safety issues at intersections near the high-rise.



# It happened in Harrisburg: a legislative and committee update

I serve on a number of active committees in the state House of Representatives to consider many pieces of legislation on a wide range of subjects. Below please find a summary of important legislation for which we have cast votes.

## Gaming Oversight

**H.B. 1334** – This bill would amend the Bingo Law by removing the restriction on how often an organization can hold bingo in a week. It also would raise the limit on awarded prizes, allow advertisement of actual prize amounts and make other changes to the Bingo Law. Many nonprofits use bingo to raise revenue, and the bill is crucial to the continued vitality of these organizations. I voted for the bill, which passed the House 193-2 and is now awaiting action in the state Senate.

**H.B. 1243** – This bill would amend the State Lottery Law to allow the secretary of revenue to withhold lottery prizes won by convicted sex offenders. The committee reviewed the bill in detail, and it was agreed that it should be considered by the House Finance Committee. I support this bill and I voted to re-refer this legislation to the Finance Committee in hope that it will continue to advance.

## Labor & Industry

**H.B. 315** – This bill was advanced out of committee and garnered nearly unanimous support in the House, passing 194-1. It passed the Senate and was signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf. Act 44 of 2015 amends the Child Labor Act to allow for 12- and 13-year-olds to be employed as officials at youth sporting events.

**H.B. 319** – This bill, advanced unanimously in committee and by the full House, would amend the Unemployment Compensation Law by requiring testimony offered at unemployment compensation appeals hearings to be recorded and made available to participants and their representatives. It remains before the state Senate for consideration.

## Professional Licensure

**H.B. 64** – Known as the Matt Adler Suicide Prevention Continuing Education Act, the legislation requires licenses of the State Board of Psychology and the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors to have at least one hour of continuing education in the assessment, treatment and management of suicide. I supported this legislation, which is now Act 74 of 2016.

**H.B. 1161** – The legislation, which I co-sponsored, amends the state Board of Vehicles Act to allow licensed vehicle salespeople – who previously were limited to sell for only one dealer at a time – to sell at multiple dealerships. Act 78 of 2015 now allows salespeople licensed to one dealership to legally sell at

another related dealership, provided the second facility possesses common, but not necessarily identical, ownership.

## Tourism & Recreational Development

**H.B. 204** – I supported this legislation, which advanced unanimously out of committee, to establish a \$15 million tax credit to fund the marketing of tourism, Pennsylvania’s second-largest industry.

State government has worked with local communities and the tourism industry for more than five decades to market Pennsylvania’s many tourist attractions to out-of-state visitors. It’s been a great success: Tourism has a \$39 billion annual economic impact, supporting over 450,000 jobs and generating \$4 billion in state and local taxes.

However, state support for tourism has dropped by 90 percent in recent years, severely diminishing efforts to attract visitors. A tax credit could provide needed funds and generate a productive working partnership with private industry and local visitors’ bureaus. It remains before the House for consideration.

**H.B. 544** – This legislation passed the House with my support. It would amend the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act to expand protections for landowners and ensure that legal fees are covered for property owners who are found not liable for injuries to recreational users.

The bill would expand the scope of the law to include various property improvements and cover all recreational activities undertaken for exercise, education and pleasure, including snowmobiling and ATV and motorcycle riding. The bill also adds a section requiring courts to award attorney fees and legal costs to landowners found not to be liable for an injury.

The measure – which would improve incentives for landowners to allow their land to be used for recreational purposes such as hunting, fishing, hiking and boating – remains before the state Senate for consideration.

**H.B. 970** – This legislation, approved unanimously in committee and by the House, would affect registration and regulation of snowmobiles and ATVs. The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources currently is unable to separate expenditures related to ATV and snowmobile projects, leaving it unclear whether funds are being expended equitably between the groups. The fund currently receives about \$2.8 million annually for trail maintenance, expansion and development from both activities.

The legislation would require DCNR to create within the restricted account two separate funds, one for snowmobile revenue and expenditures, and another for ATV revenue and expenditures. It also would update the membership of the Snowmobile and ATV Advisory

Committee, provide liability protection for property owners who offer their land for riding or safety training, strengthen the audit requirements for the funds and require DCNR to develop grant regulations.

The legislation, which would provide fairer fund distribution and better accountability, is now before the state Senate.

## Urban Affairs

**H.B. 1500** – Adds a homeless housing component to the stated purposes of land banks and exempts land bank transactions from all realty transfer taxes. I supported this bill both in committee and on the House floor. The bill is expected to be considered in the state Senate during the fall session.

**H.B. 1774** – The bill would provide the Bureau of Consumer Protection with dispute resolution procedures regarding condominiums, cooperatives and planned communities. It also would enable governance complaints to be filed with the Office of the Attorney General. I voted “yes” on this bill in committee and on the House floor. The measure is awaiting action in the Senate.

**S.B. 1221** – The bill, passed by both chambers of the General Assembly and signed into law by the governor as Act 99 on July 20, amends the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Act for Cities of the Second Class to provide additional accountability and oversight to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority in Pittsburgh.

The bill was drafted, in part, in response to a report by the Department of the Auditor General that outlined several recommendations to improve the statute governing the ICA, specifically the ambiguity of the original legislation that has led to conflicts between Pittsburgh and the ICA.

I voted for the bill, which garnered unanimous support in the House and the Senate.

# Pennsylvania’s Criminal Record Expungement Act

A new law in Pennsylvania provides for criminal record expungement in specific situations.

Act 5 of 2016, which I voted for, will help many Pennsylvanians become employed as some lesser transgressions of their past will be shielded from potential employers. There are too many cases in which people make a mistake when they are young and it wreaks havoc on their lives for years to come.

Making record expungement more accessible prevents a completed sentence from becoming an indefinite sentence.

Under the law, a person convicted of a third-degree misdemeanor or a second-degree misdemeanor, if at least 10 years have passed since they have completed their sentence, can request the opportunity to appear before a judge and request an order for limited access to their criminal record. Criminal justice and government agencies would not be subject to the order for limited access, and they still would be able to see a person’s entire criminal record information.

All violent offenses punishable by imprisonment of more than two years, and many other offenses of a serious nature, would not be eligible for an order for limited access.

## Meet & Greet

Rep. Deasy meets with constituents who visited the state Capitol with the National Association of Social Workers as part of the group’s Advocacy Day.



## Shredded It!

Rep. Deasy and Sen. Wayne Fontana partnered with Crafton and Green Tree boroughs to sponsor two free paper shredding events. The events led to the safe destruction of important documents and the recycling of 11 tons of paper.

According to Recycling Revolution, 1 ton of recycled paper can save 17 trees. Our recycling event saved 187 trees! We saved 33 cubic yards of landfill space, 4,180 gallons of oil, 44,000 kilowatts of energy and 77,000 gallons of water.

Those 187 trees saved can absorb 2,750 pounds of carbon dioxide from the air each year. Burning that same 11 tons of paper would create 181,500 pounds of carbon dioxide.



Rep. Deasy and Sen. Fontana with Joe Pittnaro of Crafton Borough.



# Deasy sponsors important government reform legislation

I have co-sponsored a number of House bills this session because I believe that they would bring valuable reforms and provide meaningful checks and balances to your state government:

**H.B. 1980** – This campaign finance reform bill would require corporations that make uncoordinated expenditures on behalf of candidates and campaigns to disclose contributions. It also would develop limits on individual races and require shareholder approval of corporate campaign contributions.

**H.B. 1977** – This measure would help stop “pay to play,” requiring applicants for state contracts to submit a disclosure form listing all campaign contributions made by them or through an intermediary to any state or local elected official or candidate, or political action committee.

**H.B. 1981** – This bill would prohibit public officials and employees from being compensated for serving on corporate or nonprofit boards. Elected officials have ample opportunities to serve on boards voluntarily, yet existing law allows legislators to be paid for serving on the boards of organizations. Being a legislator is a full-time position, and I take that responsibility



and honor very seriously. I believe lawmakers paid to serve on boards carries an expectation that they will be promoting the interests of the organization and, potentially, assisting in fundraising for the organization. This legislation would negate conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety.

**H.B. 1978** – This measure would separate lobbyists from campaigns by prohibiting lobbyists from acting as campaign consultants or receiving compensation for campaign-related services while continuing to lobby for special interests.

## Advocacy Day



Rep. Deasy welcomes Latrina Hall and Pittsburgh-area students who were visiting Harrisburg as part of Advocacy Day at the Capitol for the Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network.

## Birthday Bash



Rep. Deasy and some of his House colleagues joined Congressman Mike Doyle at the Pittsburgh bicentennial celebration in July.





**STATE REP. DAN DEASY**  
P.O. Box 202027  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027



## Look inside for information:

- Senior Expo Sept. 9
- Deasy sponsoring reforms
- Online voter registration available in Pa.
- Outreach events at local libraries

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# Beginning Dec. 31, PennDOT will no longer issue vehicle registration stickers

In a cost-cutting move, Act 89 of 2013 authorized PennDOT to eliminate vehicle registration stickers. PennDOT is now moving forward with this provision.

You will still need to register a vehicle and renew the registration annually, as Act 89 merely eliminates the need to place a registration sticker on your license plate beginning Dec. 31, 2016.

Penn State researchers concluded that eliminating the registration sticker would have no impact on vehicle registration compliance and elimination of the sticker will save taxpayers \$1 million annually.

Law enforcement will still enforce the vehicle registration

law and can issue citations to those failing to comply. Law enforcement agencies have real-time electronic access from their patrol vehicles to the state Transportation Department's database, and many agencies are investing in license plate reader technology to validate registrations more efficiently.

The change will make registration renewal more convenient for customers with computer access, as you will be able to renew your registration online and print a permanent registration card, omitting the need and cost of receiving a permanent card in the mail.

Please call my office at 412-928-9514 with any questions on this issue or any other state-related matter.

## My office can help you with:

- Car registrations, special tags, titles and license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Unemployment compensation problems
- Birth certificate applications
- Pennsylvania income tax problems
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, welfare)
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information, student aid information, etc.
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the PUC
- Consumer complaints
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding local accomplishments and family milestones
- Complaints about state road conditions
- Problems or questions about PennDOT
- Tours of the State Capitol for individuals or groups
- Disability plates and placards
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- Local government officials' problems with state agencies

***Any problem with your state government!***