



State Representative
Carol D. Hill-Evans
 95th Legislative District

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SPRING 2017



Dear Neighbor,

The opportunity to serve York as its state representative has been full of excitement, and I look forward to continuing to represent your voice in Harrisburg while learning more about the legislative process and issues facing Pennsylvania.

Spring is underway, and we are quickly approaching the unofficial budget deadline of July 1, which is the start of the new fiscal year. As you might have heard, Gov. Tom Wolf has proposed innovative ways to balance the state's spending plan, and I encourage you to visit my webpage at PaHouse.com/Hill-Evans to keep up to date on budget news and sign up for my weekly emails, which touch on district events, as well as legislative and budget priorities. You also can follow me on Facebook at [/RepHillEvans](https://www.facebook.com/RepHillEvans) and on Twitter [@RepHillEvans](https://twitter.com/RepHillEvans).

Please know that I am working hard to advance our community and propel York to the forefront of economic development, promote educational excellence and further our reputation as a premier community for families, seniors and students. There is a lot of work to be done,

but I know that our community is ready and excited for the tasks at hand.

In local state-funding news, I'm happy to report that Yorktown Senior Center and White Rose Senior Center recently were awarded lottery proceeds for new projects and resources. Yorktown was awarded \$14,975 and White Rose was awarded \$8,565.

The awards are part of \$2 million in funding from the Pennsylvania Lottery. I'm proud of the work Yorktown and White Rose do for their seniors and am happy this money will help make their services even better. Congratulations to them!

I'd also like to remind you about the services my office provides for veterans every third Wednesday each month. An accredited veterans service officer is on hand to help veterans and military families with navigating VA compensation benefits, health benefits, educational opportunities, survivor benefits and more. Appointments are required. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact my office at 717-848-9595 or email bmartin@pahouse.net.

Sincerely,

Carol Hill-Evans

100 Days in Review:

- **670** – total number of constituents assisted
- **544** – Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications completed
- **\$258,400** – approximate amount of money returned to constituents through Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Bills and Resolutions introduced since Jan. 3, 2017:

- **11** total bills introduced
- **11** total resolutions introduced
- **37** total co-sponsored bills
- **31** total co-sponsored resolutions

Events & Community Outreach:

- Visited all 24 primary and secondary schools in the district including private, parochial and charter schools
- Launched employment portal on website: www.PAHouse.com/Hill-Evans/Employment
- Collegiate Advisory Council participant
- Hosted "Women in Business" Panel in honor of Women's History Month
- Sponsored H.R. 105, designating March as "Save Your Vision Month" in Pa.
- Sponsored H.R. 104, designating March as "Social Workers' Month" in Pa.
- Sponsored H.R. 45, designating Feb. 3, 2017 as "Four Chaplains Day" in Pa.
- Sponsored H.R. 106, designating March 15, 2017 as "Kick Butts Day" in Pa.



Committees, Delegations and Caucuses

As a freshman member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, it was an honor to receive my first committee assignments in January. I am proud to serve on four committees: Education, Local Government, Urban Affairs, and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness.

I'm particularly proud of my assignment to the Education Committee because York is at the forefront of the battle for quality education, and my position there will help move legislation to benefit our students, young and adult alike.

The committee is responsible for reviewing bills regarding the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the State Board of Private Academic Schools, State Board of Private Licensed Schools, State Public School Building Authority and Public School Employees' Retirement System, as well as the Pennsylvania Higher Education Association, the Higher Education Facilities Authority and the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, and also the Professional Standards and Practices Commission.

The Urban Affairs Committee reviews bills that pertain to cities and counties of the first, second and third class. The Local Government Committee reviews legislation affecting counties, cities, boroughs and townships. Statewide zoning regulations, municipal pensions and other rules pertaining to local government are all within the committee's scope. The Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee has oversight of the Department of Military Affairs and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, as well as the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services under the Department of Health.

I am also proud to serve with the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus, Southeast Delegation, House Democratic Policy Committee and as the secretary of the Women's Caucus.

Visiting Schools



It was a pleasure visiting Indian Rock Elementary School as part of Read Across America Day. I read the book "If I Were President" by Catherine Stier to a classroom and then donated the book to the school's library.

I can never overstate the importance of Pennsylvania's commitment to a well-run education system. From pre-K programs and daycare to post-secondary universities and technical schools, the state's constitutional duty to provide for a thorough and excellent public education system is one that I take very seriously. I have had the opportunity to visit all the primary and secondary private, parochial and public schools in the district, and I look forward to visiting more post-secondary schools and institutions to learn how the state can better serve young students and lifelong learners.

As a member of the House Education Committee, I take extra care to analyze the commonwealth's education policies and funding priorities with respect to an increasingly competitive global economy. When I see a student from York learning at an elementary school, a young adult attending college classes or a high school student learning technology, I want to know that he or she will be prepared to enter a job market that demands the best and brightest minds.

I am particularly fond of schools that promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curricula. According to the U.S. Department of Education, only 81 percent of Asian-American high school students and 71 percent of white high school students attend high schools where the full range of math and science courses are offered (algebra I, geometry, algebra II, calculus, biology, chemistry, and physics). The access to these courses for American Indian, native-Alaskan, black and Hispanic high school students are significantly worse. Race, ZIP code, and socioeconomic status should not determine students' STEM fluency. We must prepare all students to thrive in a modern STEM economy.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with your school in the district – to learn more about the progress and needs you face. Setting up students for success is possibly the most important thing we can do to ensure that York, Pennsylvania and the United States remain leaders in the global marketplace.



I had the opportunity to tour York County School of Technology with its director, Dr. David Thomas. YCST is a prime example of a school deeply invested in STEM principles. The result is students who are prepared for a changing modern job force.

Key Votes Taken in House

We are still early in the 2017-18 legislative session, but the House has already taken up important legislation, and I'm proud to have voted for the following bills:

House Bill 188

Under the bill, seniors with incomes up to \$23,500 would be able to register their vehicles for \$10 instead of the full price. The income limit, which is set at \$19,200, hasn't been increased for more than 17 years. This bill, should it be passed by the Senate and signed by the governor, will afford seniors on a fixed income the opportunity to save money while preserving their ability to live independently.

House Bill 215

The bill would create a new license plate in Pennsylvania to honor women service members. Getting the plate would require an initial \$35 fee, which would be in addition to the annual registration fee. Out of each fee, \$15 would be deposited into the Veterans Trust Fund and directed to be used for programs and resources that further assist female veterans. The license plate would only be available for passenger cars or trucks. The bill is now with the Senate.

House Bill 224

This legislation, should it pass the Senate, will apply good Samaritan immunity to school bus drivers and crossing guards who administer epinephrine auto-injectors (epipens) to students, provided that the school bus driver complies with employer and school district policies and completes necessary training.

House Bill 152

The bill would develop a central database of electronic contact information for life insurance companies. It is not uncommon for a family to be unaware that a life insurance policy was in place, as payments on it could have been completed years ago. The bill would allow any member of the family of a decedent, or an estate executor or administrator, to contact the Pennsylvania Insurance Department to ask all life insurance companies doing business in the state to search for life insurance policies on the decedent. It awaits action in the Senate.



New Property Tax/Rent Rebate Applications, Help Available

My office, in Suite 3 at 53 E. North St. in York, has Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications for eligible residents to begin claiming rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2016, and the staff is ready to help!



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.

Claimants must reapply for rebates every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid annually. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may file rebate claims on behalf of deceased claimants who lived at least one day in 2016 and met all other eligibility criteria.

The rebates normally are distributed beginning on July 1. So, the sooner you file, the sooner you will receive your money! The deadline to apply, for now, is June 30, 2017, but it is routinely extended until the end of the year.

Please ignore offers to assist with filing the application for a fee. My office offers help at no charge, and the Revenue Department does not charge a fee to process your application.

Employment Portal Available

I feature an Employment Portal on my website and regularly send emails spotlighting job openings in the York area. You can sign up for the emails on my website at www.PaHouse.com/Hill-Evans or visit the portal at www.PaHouse.com/Hill-Evans/Employment.

These days, job seekers need all the help they can get in tracking down a position. I'm happy to disseminate new opportunities from local employers, as well. If you would like to list a position, please email Bronley Martin at bmartin@pahouse.net.





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lpo.kaf.0317

Upcoming events

Please mark your calendars for the following district events!

Veterans Expo and Job Fair

Thursday, April 20

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**York Expo Center
 Memorial Hall - East
 334 Carlisle Ave., York**

The Veterans Expo and Job Fair is for active military and veterans of all ages, men and women, from all branches of service and their families. The Expo is being held to ensure that eligible individuals are aware of the benefits they have earned and link veterans with employers.

Shredding Event

Saturday, April 22

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Lafayette Plaza
 Corner of North Pershing Ave.
 & West Philadelphia St., York**

Bring personal financial documents that are no longer needed, and any other papers with confidential information, such as account numbers and signatures. You can bring as much as you can fit in your vehicle. I ask that for each box, you donate a lightly used book to be donated to local students. My staff will also provide state publications and assist you in searching for any unclaimed property the Pennsylvania Treasurer's Office may be holding for you.

Bell Socialization Bed Race

Saturday, April 22

9 a.m. to noon

North Beaver Street, York

Just a half-block from downtown York's Go Green in the City festivities happening the same day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

I will be grand marshal of the race. For more information on the Bell Socialization annual event, which helps raise money for area service users to live as independently as possible in our community, visit bellsocialization.com/bells-big-bed-race.

My Office Can Help You With:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Birth and death certificates
- Problems with the Department of Health and Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Consumer complaints
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies

Any problem with state government!