

# THE POLICY RECAP

A summary of House Democratic Policy Committee hearings ..... April 10-13

## Rep. Tina Davis

### House Bill 355: Certified Recovery Residence Act

Levittown | April 10, 2017

Rep. Davis hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee hearing to discuss her legislation that would establish certification for recovery residences throughout the state. The hearing brought together local testifiers to present information to legislators from across the state to discuss the importance of implementing across-the-board standards for residences that should play a pivotal role in the lives of those seeking a life of sobriety.

#### Testifiers included:

Parents Jessica Scheiber Blackburn, Angelina Mundy and Leonard Spearing; Diane Rosati, executive director, Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission; Bryan Kennedy, owner, Independence Lodge Sober Living; Micki Kaisinger, owner; Emilie House; Howard Allen, councilman, Bristol Township; and Tom Tosti, supervisor, Middletown Township.





## Rep. Stephen Kinsey & Rep. Isabella Fitzgerald

**Serving those with Intellectual Disabilities  
Philadelphia | April 11, 2017**

Parents, local and state experts expressed their concerns for those living with intellectual disabilities at this House Democratic Policy Committee hearing at SpArc Philadelphia.



### **The committee heard testimony from:**

Larry Pace, director of operations, and Liat Richardson Owens, program manager, from Philadelphia Intellectual disAbility Services; Kathy Brown-McHale, CEO, Special People In Northeast, Inc.; Marian Baldini, President/CEO, KenCrest Services; Vanessa Williams, PA IDD regional director, Resources for Human Development; Audrey Coccia, co-executive director, Vision for Equality; Shelia McLeod, consumer and family satisfaction team manager, Vision for Equality; and parents Kathy Roberson and Ruth Landsman.



## Rep. Joanna McClinton

### Pretrial and Bail Procedure Reform

Philadelphia | April 12, 2017

Rep. Joanna McClinton's House Democratic Policy Committee hearing discussed her House Bill 1092 that would reform Pennsylvania's pretrial and bail procedures to provide a fairer, effective and less costly criminal justice system. The bill would encourage and incentivize counties to establish pretrial service programs that utilize standards proven to reduce the monetary and human cost of corrections.

#### Testifiers included:

Philadelphia City Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.; Keir Bradford-Grey, chief public defender, Defender Association of Philadelphia; Judge Benjamin Lerner (Ret.), Deputy Managing Director for Criminal Justice, City of Philadelphia; Maureen Barden, fellow County Commissioners of PA; Kevin Barnhardt, Berks County commissioner and panel from PA Pretrial Association; Nicole Schnovel, board president; Shannon Danley, board treasurer; Janice Radovick-Dean, board director-past president; and Robin Campbell, communications director, Pretrial Justice Institute.





## Rep. Mary Jo Daley

### Why Investing in Early Childhood Development Programs Matters

Merion Station | April 13, 2017

Rep. Mary Jo Daley hosted her House Democratic Policy Committee hearing at Saint Joseph's University to learn more about the importance of investing in early childhood development programs.

#### Testifiers included:

Ailene Keys, maternal child health supervisor, Montgomery County Health Department; Nadine Miller, program improvement administrator, Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth; Ruth Rosario, parent; Cathleen Palm, founder, Center for Children's Justice; Shaun Elliott, president and chief executive officer, Philadelphia Freedom Valley YMCA; Zakiyyah Boone, vice president of child care, Philadelphia Freedom Valley YMCA and Bruce Clash, Pennsylvania state director, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS.



## About the House Democratic Policy Committee

Rep. Mike Sturla is chair of the House Democratic Policy Committee. The Policy Committee holds public hearings and meetings across the state, and serves as the catalyst to enacting major policy initiatives put forth by members of the House Democratic Caucus.

You can find details about upcoming hearings, hearing testimony from previous hearings and Chairman Sturla's Policy Point of the Day by visiting [www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee](http://www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee).