



Frank Burns

State Representative

72nd Legislative District

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BURNS CONTINUES SUPPORT OF CHILD SEX ABUSE VICTIMS

Rep. Burns was shocked when a grand jury report revealed widespread child sex abuse and related cover-up in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese for decades, especially when he learned in retrospect that some of the victims had been his classmates at a local parochial high school.

Convinced that a strong message needs sent to perpetrators of such sadistic crimes, Rep. Burns has steadfastly stood with his colleague, state Rep. Mark Rozzi of Reading (himself a victim of sex abuse at the hands of a priest) and Burns' longtime friend, Shaun Dougherty of Johnstown, who was molested in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese starting at age 10.

Like they and many others who support a change in the statutes of limitation so victims of these crimes can seek justice retroactively, Rep. Burns was upset that the state Supreme Court interceded to delay public release of a more recent grand jury report that focused on child sex abuse in six other Pennsylvania dioceses.

Rep. Burns believes that the public should not be kept in the dark about these illicit behaviors that took advantage of innocent children.



Rep. Burns with state Rep. Mark Rozzi (to Burns' right) at a Capitol news conference on statutes of limitation reform for child sex abuse victims.

Rep. Burns with Shaun Dougherty of Johnstown, continuing to press for a retroactive legal window so child sex abuse victims can seek justice.



Burns supports work requirements for able-bodied medical assistance recipients

Rep. Burns was one of only four House Democrats who recently voted in favor of a bill that would impose work or job-training requirements on many able-bodied, adult medical assistance recipients.

The bill supported by Burns would require either 20 hours a week of work or completion of 12 job training-related activities per month. It passed the House 115-80.

"For every person who gets a free ride in the welfare system, the rest of us end up paying more, which isn't fair." - Rep. Burns.

Burns noted that those who are disabled, younger than 20 or older than 65, pregnant or caring for a child younger than 6 or a disabled person would be among those exempt from the work or job-training requirements.

Burns believes in helping those who truly need it – but he is also keen on weeding out abuse in the welfare system and making sure people aren't allowed to take advantage of it.

Welfare reform at top of Burns' agenda

Rep. Burns is all for helping those who truly need it – but he draws a hard line at giving your tax dollars to those who make a mockery of the welfare system. That's why he supports these legislative initiatives designed to crack down on fraud and abuse:

Drug testing for welfare recipients: Burns supports requiring the state Department of Human Services to test (and retest) public assistance applicants and recipients who are under suspicion of substance abuse. Before they get any of your money, they shouldn't be spending their own cash on drugs.

Proof of citizenship and proper identification: Burns supports requirements that any applicant for public assistance be a resident of Pennsylvania and the United States, and that their photograph be displayed on any welfare benefits card.

Stop cash withdrawals using electronic benefits cards: Burns wants to prohibit welfare recipients from using their cards to buy tobacco or tobacco products, or to withdraw money at casinos, gambling establishments or adult-oriented entertainment venues.

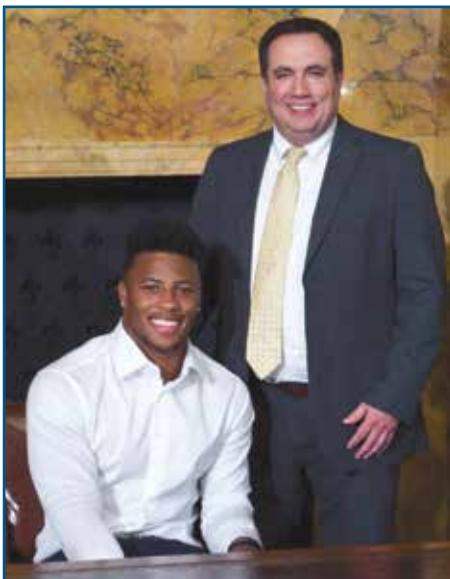
No booze purchases or sending money to inmates: Burns believes in blocking users of welfare electronic benefits cards from using them to buy alcohol or to deposit money into the accounts of prison inmates.

End double-dipping at the public trough: Once someone applies for and receives public assistance in Pennsylvania, Burns wants the Department of Human Services to notify all other states where that person previously received such assistance, so that person is cut off in other states.

Around the 72nd District

Rep. Burns greets Penn State football star Saquon Barkley

Rep. Burns took some time to wish Penn State running back Saquon Barkley some good fortune in the NFL draft, which occurred when Barkley was selected 2nd overall by the New York Giants.



Penny makes Rep. Burns feel like a rich man

Few things in life have warmed Rep. Burns' heart so much as this wheat penny, which was given to him by a first-grader at Cambria County Christian School. Here's how it happened, in Rep. Burns' own words:

"While I was at Cambria County Christian School today, giving out evergreen tree seedlings to a class of first-graders, a little girl went back into the classroom, came up to me with this wheat penny and insisted that I take it. 'I want you to have it – it's part of history,' she said.

"We planted a tree at the school and gave them a birdhouse. But I'll always remember the kind gesture of that little girl. It's why I fight on behalf of kids in Harrisburg."

Rep. Burns plans to hold on to this penny, which has an emotional worth to him that exceeds millions.





Burns delivers over \$1.7 million to district thus far in 2018

Rep. Burns continues having great success in bringing state dollars back into the communities of the 72nd Legislative District. These grants benefit a wide range of projects and in many cases offset the need to use local tax funds. Here's a recap of what he's brought in so far this year:

- **\$666,026** to **Mount Aloysius College** to provide pedestrian access from its campus to the Cresson Business District.
- **\$4,000** to the **Cambria County Historical Society** to enhance and sustain its general operations.
- **\$43,144** to **Conemaugh Valley School District** to purchase a double combination oven at its junior-senior high school.
- **\$341,661** to **27 local fire departments and ambulance companies** to help them continue their vital, life-saving work.
- **\$440,000** to **Portage Borough** for Phase 2 of its sidewalk improvement project.
- **\$268,254** to **Cambria County** to combat homelessness, including helping homeless veterans.

For Help with Grants: Brittany Blackham, an experienced grant writer, joined my staff last year and is happy to assist you with state grants.



Cambria Heights citation presentation

Rep. Burns recently presented a House citation to Cambria Heights School District Superintendent Michael Strasser and middle school Principal Jarrod Lewis, for selection to the Schools to Watch program. It recognizes exemplary middle schools that ensure every child has access to a rigorous, high-quality education.



'Push out the Pusher' yard signs available in Rep. Burns' offices

In conjunction with a program run by Cambria County Crimestoppers, Rep. Burns is offering free "Push out the Pusher" yard signs at each of his district offices.

This program has resulted in almost 500 drug dealers being taken off the streets, thanks to people calling the anonymous tip line reporting drug activity. Law enforcement can't do it without the help of the community.

If you would like a free yard sign, stop in at one of Rep. Burns' offices. It's time to send a message to these drug dealers.

"If you're fed up with drug dealers pushing their poison on kids, then get involved in the fight by displaying a yard sign and reporting what you see to police. We need the public's help to combat this opioid crisis, so let's all band together, fight back and let these drug dealers know the 72nd Legislative District is not an easy place to set up shop." - Rep. Burns.



Rep. Burns with one of his key allies in the fight to rid Cambria County of drug dealers, state Attorney General Josh Shapiro.



Rep. Burns with Olivia Zernick, Cortney Hoover and Shelby Lightcap, three college students who work the anti-drug Youth Fairs held throughout Cambria County.



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Tree planting at Saint Benedict School

Continuing his yearly spring custom, Rep. Burns counted St. Benedict School in Carrolltown among the stops for his tree-planting and seedling giveaway tour. Here he is with Saint Benedict third- and fourth-graders who participated in the event, which promotes natural beauty and improves the environment.



Representative Frank Burns' offices can help you with:

- Car registrations, special tags, disability placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- 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!