

THE POLICY RECAP

A Summary of House Democratic Policy Committee Meetings.....September 17, 18, 20, 2018

Rep. Tina Davis

Child Custody Issues

Langhorne | September 17

Rep. Tina Davis hosted a public hearing on child custody issues at the Middletown Township Municipal Building.

The hearing focused on Rep. Davis' H.B. 956, which would update court procedures for child custody cases where there are allegations of domestic violence or child sexual abuse. Rep. Mark Rozzi's H.B. 2058, of which Davis is a cosponsor, also was discussed. That bill would implement standards to improve the courts' ability to respond to the impact of child abuse and domestic violence on victims, specifically children.

The committee heard testimony from:

- Kathryn Sherlock, Mother
- Eileen Bannon, Grandmother
- Danielle Pollack, Ambassador, CHILD USA
- Amy Tielemans, President, PA Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
- Diane Eliis-Marseglia, Bucks County Commissioner
- Meg Groff, Consulting Attorney, A Woman's Place
- Frank Cervone, Executive Director, Support Center for Child Advocates.





Rep. Carolyn Comitta Age-Friendly Communities West Chester | September 18

Rep. Carolyn Comitta hosted a public hearing at the West Goshen Township Building on Age-Friendly Communities: Shaping a Brighter Future for All.

Comitta requested the hearing to discuss how municipalities across the state are developing communities that address older adults' unique needs.

The following testifiers offered insight at the hearing:

- Teresa Osborne, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Aging
- Virginia Brown, Director of the Bureau of Policy and Regulatory Management in the Office of Long Term Living, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
- Jasmin Tahmaseb-McConatha, Coordinator of WHO-Sponsored Age-Friendly Communities Programs and AARP-Sponsored Projects, West Chester University
- Karin Morris, Associate Director of Livable Communities, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- Heidi Carlson, Deputy Director, Chester County Department of Aging Services
- Pat Bokovitz, Director, Chester County Department of Community Development
- Yocasta Lora, Associate State Director of Community Outreach, AARP Pennsylvania.





Rep. Perry Warren Emergency Services Yardley | September 20

Rep. Perry Warren hosted a public hearing on emergency services at the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company Station 80.

Warren requested the hearing to highlight the drastic need for volunteers and the importance of state programs that provide vital funding assistance to local emergency services.

Testifiers included Dylan Ferguson, Director of Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, Pennsylvania Department of Health; Evan Resnikoff, Chief, Newtown Ambulance Squad; and Larry Newman, President, Yardley-Makefield Fire Company.



PA House Democrats have a Plan for Pennsylvania to put people first. We're fighting for Good Jobs, Affordable Health Care, Quality Schools and A Fair Economy. These House Democratic Policy Committee meetings are among a series being held across the state to focus on the House Democrats' plan.

Additional information about the Plan4PA is available at PlanforPA.com.





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.

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