

April 11, 22-25, 29, 2019

# POLICY RECAP

*A Summary of House Democratic Policy Committee Meetings*



## CHAIRMAN MIKE STURLA APRIL 11 | LANCASTER ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

Rep. Mike Sturla hosted a roundtable discussion to learn more about adverse childhood experiences, referred to as ACEs, and the lifelong effect they have on the brain. Held at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, this meeting was the second in a series across the state to further explore how these experiences affect children's cognitive development, and the impact adverse childhood experiences have on education, health care and correctional costs.



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## REP. STEVE McCARTER APRIL 22 | WYNDMOOR THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

Rep. Steve McCarter hosted a public hearing in the Springfield Township Administration Building on the future of nuclear energy and its impact on alternative energy portfolio standards. The committee heard testimony from the energy industry and environmental groups about how jobs can be protected while developing a greener energy portfolio for Pennsylvania.







**PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS**  
**APRIL 23 | PHILADELPHIA**  
**RE-ENTRY INITIATIVES**

The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus (PLBC) and the House Democratic Policy Committee held a joint hearing at Temple University on re-entry initiatives that featured Pennsylvanians who have overcome past transgressions to make storied contributions to the state.

PLBC Chair Stephen Kinsey requested the hearing to further explore criminal justice reform that will help prepare individuals who paid their debt to society to transition back into the workforce while reducing recidivism rates. Kinsey noted that we must work together to eliminate the barriers of discrimination, prejudice and stigma that often come with making a single mistake.

Testifiers including world boxing champion Bernard Hopkins, former inmates, advocacy groups and state officials.







## **REP. MARY JO DALEY**

### **APRIL 24 | PLYMOUTH MEETING**

### **WHY UNIONS?**

Rep. Mary Jo Daley hosted a hearing at the UFCW Local 1776 Meeting Hall focusing on the role unions play in protecting workers' rights. Legislators and stakeholders discussed how unions are integral in workers' rights, equal pay for equal work, safety regulations and the evolution of workforce needs.





# **REP. ED NEILSON** **APRIL 25 | PHILADELPHIA** **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Rep. Ed Neilson hosted a public hearing on workforce development at the UA Steamfitters Local 420 Hall. The committee discussed worker safety and efforts to recruit and train a workforce prepared for quality-wage jobs.

Neilson said workers take uninhabitable places and make them homes and businesses for generations to come. He wants to make sure the state is educating the public about the opportunities available for building a better future for Philadelphia and Pennsylvania.







# SENATE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

## APRIL 29 | HARRISBURG

### RESPONSIBLE ADULT USE CANNABIS

The House and Senate Democratic Policy Committees held a joint public hearing in the Capitol on responsible adult-use cannabis. Rep. Jake Wheatley has introduced House Bill 50 to legalize cannabis and raise an estimated \$580 million in tax revenue to fund student debt forgiveness, after school programs, affordable housing, social justice reforms and incentives for marijuana businesses to partner with farmers. Rep. Ed Gainey, a co-sponsor of the bill, said it is time to regulate it and save some lives.

The committees heard testimony from Lt. Gov. John Fetterman about his statewide listening tour, attorneys, advocates and stakeholders.



## ABOUT THE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Rep. Mike Sturla is chairman 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).

## PLAN4PA

House Democrats have a **Plan4PA**, a new way forward that puts people first with *good jobs, affordable health care, quality schools* and a *fair economy*.

