



State Representative ▼ 191st Legislative District

JOANNA E. McCLINTON

412 Main Capitol Building, P.O. Box 202191, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2191 (717) 772-9850

Fax: (717) 783-1516

52 S. 60th St. • Philadelphia, PA 19139..... (215) 748-6712

Fax: (215) 748-1687

WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/McCLINTON • @REPMcCLINTON • f/REPMcCLINTON

SUMMER 2019

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your family are having a safe and fulfilling summer! Earlier this spring, my legislative office relocated to 52 South 60th Street, and my staff and I are always available to help you with any concerns. As your state representative, I am committed to serving you and keeping you well informed on state matters.

In this newsletter, you will learn more about the key issues I am addressing and updates about what's happening here in our community and in Harrisburg. I am thrilled to announce that there have been many accomplishments that have brought us closer to our goal of creating a safe and fair Pennsylvania for all. I will continue to fight for progress!

I'm also including information on several community events that I am hosting this **summer and fall!** I truly hope to see you at one of these events!

Sincerely,

Joanna E. McClinton
State Representative
191st Legislative District

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALPHONSO SAMUKAI

I am elated that Alphonso Samukai, a resident of the 191st Legislative District, was among seven statewide recipients



of the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus 2019 Scholarship. Alphonso, a sophomore at Cheyney University majoring in business management, received a myriad of recommendations and praises from his educators for his amazing academic performance and his involvement in many extracurricular activities in which Alphonso demonstrates his impeccable leadership skills around his local and campus communities.

Congratulations to Alphonso and the other winners of the 2019 PLBC Scholarship! I wish each of you continued success in your academics and beyond.

THE 2019-20 BUDGET

The 2019-2020 budget was a roller coaster, complete with ups and downs, that achieved some of our goals while leaving some issue areas that we must continue to fight for each day.

I am proud that this year's budget provided much-needed support to our children's public schools. The on-time budget includes a record \$210 million increase for K-12 education: \$160 million more for basic education and \$50 million more for special education. We also increased pre-K education funding by \$45 million.

There also is support for job training and development through increased funding

for career and technical centers, libraries and higher education.

Unfortunately, this year's budget process failed in two key areas that would have provided meaningful assistance to Pennsylvanians – raising the minimum wage and eliminating Pennsylvania's General Assistance program.

At \$7.25 an hour, Pennsylvania's minimum wage is the lowest, when compared to neighboring New Jersey, Delaware and New York. PA's wage has been stagnant for well over a decade, despite major rises in the costs of living. Many of our residents earning minimum wage are the breadwinners of their families, and I have been working to ensure that our workforce

is paid fair and livable wages. We must continue to fight each day for an increase in the minimum wage.

General Assistance provides a modest \$200 a month to our Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens to buy basic necessities. This program has made the difference between eating or going hungry and purchasing life-saving medication or dying for 10,000 Pennsylvanians currently. Recipients of these much-needed funds include veterans, the disabled who are unable to work, victims of domestic violence, and residents experiencing poverty. My colleagues and I are trying to find solutions to preserve GA, before its official cancellation after Aug. 1.

HELPING TO CLEAR CRIMINAL RECORDS

Bipartisan support of commonsense criminal justice reform will increase access to things that we all want and need in PA like jobs, housing, second chances and opportunities to move forward.

Throughout the state and in our community, there are men and women who have served their time for minor offenses they've committed, yet their lingering criminal record has been a blemish preventing them from obtaining employment, purchasing a home and establishing a bright future for themselves and their families. After a person is acquitted, the arrest charge remains, but many residents don't have the time or money to spare towards the legal process and court fees to fully expunge it.

I was proud to co-prime sponsor House Bill 440, bipartisan legislation that would provide an opportunity to expunge a person's record if they've been unconditionally pardoned or fully acquitted of all charges. The commonwealth would receive notice of a potential expungement and would be able to object and conduct a hearing.

The Automatic Expungement Bill complements the Clean Slate law, both aiming to provide second chances to those who have proven themselves to be upstanding citizens and part of the larger effort of ensuring a fair criminal justice system.



COBBS CREEK PARKWAY

In the coming months, expect some much-needed improvements to the Cobbs Creek Parkway through traffic projects! Along the Cobbs Creek Parkway from 63rd Street to Upland Street, a new guiderail system will be installed to reduce the number of drivers veering off the road along those deep curves. There's also a proposed roundabout for installation at Cobbs Creek Parkway and 70th Street that, if built, will help reduce traffic congestion, especially during peak travel times.

These projects are funded by grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Automated Red Light Enforcement program. A total of \$15.4 million was distributed from fine revenue generated from red light cameras posted at 30 intersections across Philadelphia.

PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

I was happy to see legislation I'm cosponsoring to address the crime of sexual extortion pass the House unanimously in June! House Bill 1402, which I am co-prime sponsoring with my colleague Rep. Tedd Nesbitt, is first-of-its-kind legislation that would make sexual extortion a crime. Sexual extortion occurs when an individual misuses his or her power to demand sexual acts, images, or videos from victims, usually in exchange for something the victim heavily depends on such as a service or something of value. We know that this happens in many settings such as workplaces and schools, but the most common setting is online.

And because of their willingness to post personal information online, our children, who make up 71% of victims in these cases, are the most vulnerable, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

I am proud to spearhead this legislation to protect Pennsylvanians from this growing form of sexual exploitation, and I hope the Pennsylvania Senate will pass this bill and get it to Governor Wolf's desk in the fall!

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

June 4, 2019: The centennial anniversary of Congress passing the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote



When we reflect on the fundamental American value of the right to vote, it's important to think about how long it took for women to get the right to vote, and then how long it took for women who resemble me to get the right to vote. Whether it was 100 years or 50 years ago, there is something to be said about us having the opportunity to raise our voices and use them as our power! This power has evolved into women not only having their voices heard through their votes, but also leading as elected-officials in our state and federal government.

STOPPING GUN VIOLENCE

In Philadelphia, we are reeling from the gun violence epidemic that has gripped our city. We continue to experience high volumes of shootings, marking one of the most violent periods in Philadelphia's history. With many of our residents and communities affected, it's time that we begin to address this epidemic as a public health crisis, and to do so, we must focus on addressing poverty and the lack of opportunities for our youth.

I've long been a strong proponent of empowering the many local grassroots community organizations. In June, I was pleased to see Community of Compassion and Muslims 4 Humanity, both of which are based here in the 191st Legislative District, be among two dozen city-based organizations awarded city grants totaling \$708,354. I also was instrumental in securing \$500,000 in state funding from the 2018 state budget for this effort. Muslims 4 Humanity will use its grant to host a series of engagement activities to mobilize community stakeholders to find solutions to the violence; while Community of Compassion will offer comprehensive programs consisting of mental health and employment counseling for youth and young adults between the ages 16 and 24.



State Rep. Joanna McClinton
and
State Sen. Anthony H. Williams
will co-host a community



SHREDDING EVENT



Saturday, August 3, 2019
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Mercy Fitzgerald East Campus • 642 South Wycombe Ave. • Yeadon, PA 19050

Friendship Circle Senior Center Parking Lot
(Enter on Wycombe Ave., next to Providence Rehab Center)

Properly shred unneeded papers:

- Taxes
- Financial and medical records
- Other personal information

PLEASE REMOVE ALL PAPER CLIPS FROM PAPERS TO BE SHREDDED.

THIS EVENT IS FOR INDIVIDUALS ONLY, NOT BUSINESSES.

In my continued effort to protect constituents and their identities, I will cohost a free shredding event with Sen. Anthony Williams, D-Philadelphia, in partnership with Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital.

It will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3 at Mercy Fitzgerald East Campus specifically in the Friendship Circle Senior Center Parking Lot, 1515 Lansdowne Ave. in Darby.

Constituents are encouraged to bring unneeded paper items to be shredded for disposal, including old bills, health records and financial items, as well as any other paper items of a personal nature.

Staff members from my office and the Senator's office will also provide help with state issues such as applying for PennDOT materials, Medicaid and the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.

I'm excited to invite the community to join me for our annual Community Health and Wellness Summer Jam on Saturday, August 10! From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., please join us as at the 60th Street Corridor as we enjoy food, music, fun games and learn more about how to create and maintain a healthy lifestyle!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON EVENTS,
PLEASE CONTACT
REP. MCCLINTON'S
OFFICE AT:**

**52 S. 60th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19139
(215) 748-6712
Fax: (215) 748-1687**

SAVE THE DATE

Representatives Morgan Cephas, Movita Johnson-Harrell & Joanna McClinton present

60th Street Health and Wellness Community Summer Jam

August 10, 2019 • 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
60th Street between Arch and Chestnut

Join us for a **FREE** fun and engaging event that will feature main stage entertainment, food, family fun, and our mobile office to provide constituents with answers to state issues and programs.



I'm also excited to once again host my annual Delaware County Back to School Community Resource Fair for students in the 191st Legislative District! This free event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Darby Recreation Center, 1022 Ridge Ave. in Darby! Local vendors will provide free haircuts and hairstyles in addition to free school supplies. Refreshments will also be available. I can't wait to see you there!

DELAWARE COUNTY **Back to School** *Community Resource Fair!*



**Tuesday,
Sept. 3**

4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

**Darby Recreation Center
1022 Ridge Avenue
Darby, PA 19023**

Free School Supply give away • Free Hair Cuts and Hair Styles • Free community resources

Healthy From Head To Toe Senior Appreciation Fair

Friday, September 13, 2019

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Presbyterian Homes

**2050 South 58th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19143**



- ▶ Health Screenings
- ▶ Vendors with Resources
- ▶ Lunch Served
- ▶ Rep. McClinton and her staff will also provide senior constituents with the necessary information and tools to live healthy lives!



Please mark your calendar for this year's Healthy From Head to Toe Senior Appreciation Fair! We'll have health partners in attendance to provide health screenings and fitness demonstrations! My staff will also be able to provide information about PACE/PACENET prescription drug plans and Property Tax/Rent Rebate! This event will take place on Friday, September 13, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Presbyterian Homes, 2050 South 58th St.

2019 LEGISLATIVE EVENTS

Entrepreneurship Fair – April 18 at Ezekiel Baptist Church



How to Buy the Block – April 4 at Community of Compassion CDC



Delco Community – May 4 on Church Lane





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P.O. Box 202191
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2191

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REGISTER AND VOTE

Important 2019 General Election Deadlines

- **October 7** – Last day to register to vote
- **October 29 (by 5 p.m.)** – Last day to apply for an absentee ballot
- **November 1 (by 5 p.m.)** – Last day for county election offices to receive absentee ballots
- **November 5** – Election Day (polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

You may vote by absentee ballot if you are unable to make it to the polls because of illness, disability or if you will be out of your municipality on Election Day.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at my district offices, through Philadelphia County Voter Services or Delaware County Voter Services, or online at **www.votespa.com**.