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State Representative | 21st Legislative District

# SARA INNAMORATO



## WORKING FOR WORKING FAMILIES

I believe in a Pennsylvania for us all: one where our working families don't have to live paycheck-to-paycheck and where your health and well-being are more important than corporate interests. Our legislative agenda should be driven by the people we serve.

Whether I'm in Harrisburg working to advance the concerns of working families or working here in the Pittsburgh region to promote the sustainable growth and reinvigoration of our neighborhoods, I am committed to being YOUR state representative, YOUR voice and YOUR guide in the halls of state government.

We believe in meeting you where you are. Since entering office, my dedicated district staff and I have knocked on your

door, rode the bus with you, visited you in your senior center or local library, and attended your community events to connect people with state services. In fact, we've helped more than 4,000 of our friends and neighbors this year!

Our region has come a long way – from the steel mills that fueled its creation to the modern economy we're building today, but our successes have always come from people working together. In solidarity we can continue to build a better future for everyone, one in which hard-working families, young citizens, and our older neighbors can have the opportunities to live a life of dignity.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community.

Together, we can make a difference.

# LEGISLATION UPDATE

As your representative, I'm focused on bills designed to help working families. I've been working hard to advance important legislation such as:

- Pennsylvania's Paid Family Leave Act. This would allow eligible employees up to 12 weeks leave at full pay, counted against the FMLA leave for which they are entitled. We need to stand firmly on the side of workers and families and require paid parental leave.
- Supporting first responders. As part of a bipartisan effort to help struggling volunteer fire and EMS companies, we in the legislature have debated and passed numerous bills to help solve the critical volunteer shortage while rewarding those who answer the call.

- Ending surprise medical billing. You and your family deserve protections from surprise out-of-network provider charges or out-of-network emergency rooms. This bill would protect patients during the reimbursement process and provide clear instructions for providers and insurers.
- Urging Pennsylvania to adopt safe staffing levels for nurses. Pennsylvania has the opportunity to be one of the first states to mandate nurse staffing ratios in law – and I've introduced legislation urging the Department of Health to take a look at their regulations on the issue.

## BY THE NUMBERS:

### Working for you!



**4,160**  
Community  
members  
met



Legislation  
sponsored  
**69**

**368**

Property Tax/  
Rent Rebate  
applications

Transit/Port  
Authority  
applications



**542**

**4,657**

Constituent issues  
handled



Votes cast in  
the House



**800+**



**909**

Event  
attendees

*\*Dec. 1, 2018 to current*



# ONE MILLION DOLLARS for safe streets!



I was thrilled to announce recently that Sharpsburg's Main Street project was selected to receive a \$1 million state grant.

The grant will help the borough fund the project, which will replace sidewalks, pedestrian crossings as well as the roadway, and add bus shelters, travel lanes, ADA ramps and other amenities along Main Street from 6th to 13th streets in the borough.

Our streets connect our community and making these spaces safer and more accessible for all makes Sharpsburg an even more wonderful place to live and work.

I'm proud to cheer on state investments in safe streets and honored to be among the leaders who see and support the amazing work being done in Sharpsburg.

We also worked to help New Sun Rising secure \$60,000 for crosswalk improvements and pedestrian safety equipment in

## INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

### \$500,000 to assist arts center development

In August, Contemporary Craft received \$500,000 in state support for the purchase and renovation of a former industrial property for use as a community arts center.

This project is an excellent example of how we can reinvest in former industrial sites and build our region's economic diversity and strength for the future.

### Fight food insecurity in our communities

No one should have to go hungry, which is why I was happy to hear that the state is investing \$55,000 to help 412 Food Rescue address food insecurity in our communities.

412 is currently in the process of developing a kitchen space in the Millvale Food + Energy Hub, to convert fresh, healthy surplus food into meals for distribution by an extensive network of nonprofits and community organizations. The organization targets 'food deserts' or areas where people lack access to fresh fruit, vegetables and other healthy foods.

The group currently rescues between 250,000 and 300,000 pounds of food each month, food that could help our neighbors who face food insecurity. This investment by the state will help the organization with their build-out, and help the extend their programs through out our region.

20% of Allegheny County's students face food insecurity at home. Grants like these make sure we're combatting hunger with community-led solutions that support our families and our most vulnerable neighbors.

### Micro-grant for urban farming

In October, an \$8,600 state Urban Agriculture Grant was awarded to the Triboro Ecodistrict Partnership. It will be used to purchase supplies and seedling to support the partnership's community gardens.

Volunteering in my community garden was how I met my neighbors, put down roots, and became active locally. We can create healthy, civically engaged communities by investing in urban agriculture.

These beautiful spaces foster connection, stewardship, and mutual care.



# ETNA BECOMES FIRST COMMUNITY IN THE U.S. TO BE RECOGNIZED ECODISTRICT

Our neighbors in Etna have established the very first nationally recognized EcoDistrict. This certification is the result of hard work by tireless advocates in the community who are committed to a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future for their borough. It's hard to overstate what a big deal this is: Etna is now a national leader for

how communities can prepare for and navigate the future.

I was proud to present a citation on behalf of the House of Representatives last week during the 10th EcoDistricts Summit here in Pittsburgh. It's a tremendous honor to represent my neighbors in Etna when I go back to Harrisburg, and

it's a pleasure to work alongside my neighbors every day here in the district.

Terrific work by all the residents, stakeholders, and allies involved. Hopefully this certification is the first in a series for the Triboro Ecodistrict communities in Millvale and Sharpsburg.

## BIG CHANGE STARTS SMALL



## Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped receives major state grant

A major renovation project Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) has been selected to receive a major state grant.

The \$750,000 grant will help fund a \$2.7 million renovation project to the library's interior and exterior, to provide more comfortable and easily navigable accommodations and spaces for patrons with visual or physical challenges. The library includes two studios

to create book recordings that are then made available to more than 15,000 local, regional or international patrons.

Libraries are about creating equitable spaces for all our neighbors. By supporting an update to these facilities, we're supporting the accessible and inclusive work of Carnegie Library staff by helping them create a more accessible and inclusive physical space where everyone can feel at home with a book.

## Address pedestrian/traffic safety priorities

We were proud to support Millvale, Etna, and Sharpsburg in further building sustainable communities by addressing legacy multi model challenges with a PA Department of Community and Economic Development grant of \$60,000 awarded to the Triboro Ecodistrict, a fiscally sponsored project

of New Sun Rising. Each community has selected priority intersections to create pedestrian safety and traffic calming improvements including solar-powered pedestrian crosswalk signage, cement curb bumpouts, and painted pedestrian crosswalks.



# IN THE COMMUNITY

Supporting our veterans with a resource fair.



Providing health and wellness tools for our older adults at the Ross Township Community Center!



Safe Streets are for everyone and every age!



Calling for domestic violence awareness with our local law enforcement, community leaders, and advocates.



Nothing spooky about state services during the indoor trick-or-treating event in Lawrenceville.



You're never too young to learn about fire safety!

Thanks Ross Township Police Department for hosting OJ with an officer!



I'm proud to stand for working families and good union jobs.



State Representative  
**SARA INNAMORATO**

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## YOUR DISTRICT OFFICE CAN HELP

- All PennDOT services: reduced fee vehicle registrations, handicap placard applications
- Pennsylvania income tax forms and questions
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments for your neighbors — let us know who we can celebrate!
- Complaints about road conditions or infrastructure
- Unemployment compensation problems
- Accessing the Department of Human Services: SNAP benefits, medical assistance applications
- Issues regarding utility companies
- Birth certificate applications, finding copies of your vital records
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate preparation
- Senior ConnectCard applications through Port Authority of Allegheny County

**You have a dedicated team of problem-solvers and trained experts on state government. We're here to help you navigate any issues with state agencies or services!**

Please feel free to contact my office at 412-781-2750 for assistance.