



THE DALEY NEWS

Winter 2020

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Mary Jo Daley

148TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Dear Friends,

It's not just a new year, it's a new decade. And I hope yours is off to a splendid start!

As your representative I continue to proudly and humbly serve, putting the needs of working families at the forefront of everything I do.

With 2020 now upon us, that means fighting to ensure that people have access to necessary health care to keep our community healthy.

It means fighting to keep our district beautiful and free from toxins and other pollutants.

It means making sure your voice is heard when you need to ask questions or express concerns.

And it means ensuring that you have access to state services that can save you money, reduce stress, improve your daily lives, and keep you safe and warm.

It has already been a busy year, so I also want to draw attention to two pieces of legislation that I'm introducing.

The first, House Bill 2223, would clarify and expand restrictions on shackling incarcerated individuals who are pregnant, in labor or have recently given birth. This

proposed legislation would strengthen accountability and reporting requirements in all correctional institutions and for all custodians across the state. We must ensure that these protections are no longer ignored.

The other is a resolution that would prompt a study of ecological strongholds known as conservation corridors – habitats that link two or more natural areas and allow for fish passage and movement of wildlife, including plant life, from one area to another. Focus on conservation corridor research has multiple benefits for our commonwealth, including economic advantages such as outdoor recreation, tourism and wildlife conservation.

In the new decade, I look forward to continuing the fight for a better, healthier and stronger community. I thank each of you for entrusting me with the responsibility of being your representative, and I encourage you to reach out when you have any questions, concerns or need help with any state-related issue.

Sincerely,



STAY INFORMED



Want to learn more about what is happening in our district and in Harrisburg? I have you covered.

Sign up for my emails, which provide periodic updates on what I've been doing in both the 148th Legislative District and at the State Capitol. These monthly "eblasts" include video, pictures and links, all designed to keep you informed.

Signing up also saves taxpayers money, as the e-correspondence greatly reduces paper and energy costs needed to produce hardcopy newsletters such as this.

So, contact my office by calling 610-832-1679 or emailing RepMaryJoDaley@pahouse.net to sign up! Or, just visit my website at www.pahouse.com/daley/emailsignup.

HISTORIC CHANGES TO PA ELECTION CODE

In October, Governor Wolf signed Act 77 of 2019 into law. This historic election reform bill makes the most significant improvements to Pennsylvania's elections in more than 80 years, allowing for more convenient and secure voting.

You can now vote by mail-in ballot, and voters have more time to register and to return their absentee or mail-in ballots.

Visit www.votespa.com for more details on how election reform impacts you.

THE 2020 CENSUS

Every 10 years, the United States conducts a census. This count of U.S. residents helps determine how \$675 billion is spent by the federal government and how Pennsylvania will be represented in Congress for the next decade.

This year, it will be even easier to make sure you and your family are counted. You can respond online, by paper or over the phone. The census will be printed in English and Spanish; accommodations are made for those with visual or hearing impairments; and telephone assistance will be available in 13 languages.

An accurate count is incredibly important for all of us in the state. Many things depend on the results of the census, including the number of representatives that Pennsylvania will have in Congress and the amount of money the commonwealth will receive from the federal government for support services for seniors, children or lower-income residents.

It's important to know that it is completely anonymous. Your information isn't shared, and no one will be able to follow up with you about anything on an individual basis.

So, please, be on the lookout for invitations to complete the 2020 census starting in mid-March. Once you receive your invitation, respond either online, by phone or through the mail. April 1 is officially Census Day, a key reference date. When completing the census, you will include everyone living in your home on April 1, 2020.




THE CENSUS BUREAU IS HIRING!

Speaking of the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau needs your help.

The bureau is recruiting census workers across the country, bumping its hourly pay rate. You can earn \$27 an hour in Montgomery County.


Having accurate and complete census information is crucial to the federal funding each region receives, money that goes toward school services, infrastructure and jobs.


If you are interested in being part of history, supporting your community and earning competitive wages that are paid weekly, find out more by visiting 2020census.gov/jobs.




Modernizing the vote for
2020

Effective for the April 2020 Primary Election
More info | www.votespa.com | Register online

 **More ways to vote**



No-excuse mail-in voting
New option to vote by mail
Without providing an excuse




Permanent mail-in ballot list
Receive applications for
mail-in or absentee ballots
for all elections

More accessible elections



More time to register
Deadline to register to vote is
now 15 days before
an election



Extended voting period
Request a mail-in or absentee
ballot up to 50 days before
an election

Extended deadline
Submit mail-in or absentee ballot
by 8 p.m. on Election Day

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM TICKS

Tick-borne diseases are on the rise in the United States, and prevention needs to be on everyone's mind, especially once we get into spring and summer.

Ticks can be infected with bacteria, viruses or parasites. Between 2004 and 2016, there were 73,610 tick-borne disease cases in Pennsylvania, the highest of any state in the country, according to CDC data.

The Tick Research Lab of Pennsylvania recognizes 11 tick-borne illnesses that have been identified in this state: Lyme Disease; Deer Tick Virus; Anaplasmosis; Babesiosis; Relapsing Fever; Mycoplasmosis; Bartonellosis; Ehrlichiosis; Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; Tularemia; and STARI. Not all of these diseases are treatable.

It's vital, particularly if you're a lover of the outdoors, to know and understand the risk of tick-borne diseases. Know when and how to protect yourself with appropriate clothing, insect repellent and other precautionary measures. Recognize the many symptoms associated with tick-borne diseases, like body ache, fever, headaches, fatigue, joint pain, rash and more.

In the near future, my office will be hosting an educational event on tick-borne illness. Keep an eye on www.pahouse.com/MDaley for details.



HELP WITH HEATING




2019-2020

INCOME GUIDELINES

for homeowners and renters

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM INCOME
1	\$18,735
2	\$25,365
3	\$31,995
4	\$38,625
5	\$45,255
6	\$51,885
7	\$58,515
8	\$65,145
9	\$71,775
10	\$78,405

 EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON: ADD \$6,630

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is available for families and individuals who need help staying warm this winter.

Contact my office at 610-832-1679 for help.



DO YOU NEED A REAL ID?

Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license, photo ID card, or another form of federally acceptable identification (such as a valid passport or military ID) to board a domestic flight or enter a secure federal building or military installation.

Information about REAL ID can be found on PennDOT's website, under the REAL ID section: www.dmv.pa.gov/REALID. Please contact my office at 610-832-1679 with any questions or concerns.



More at this site:

<http://www.dmv.pa.gov/REALID>

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Early this year, Governor Tom Wolf announced a multi-agency effort and anti-stigma campaign titled "Reach Out PA: Your Mental Health Matters." It is designed to assist those struggling with mental health, and its message is clear: Your mental health matters, and it's OK to reach out for help.

A significant portion of our population struggles with some type of psychological distress, and many do not seek or cannot afford appropriate mental health care.

The goals of this initiative are to strengthen mental health care access, combat mental health stigma, increase support and proactive resources for children and young adults, and prepare state agencies and workers to help and reach out.

Just as we've done with other health crises, we're hoping a multipronged approach to mental health will strengthen our entire population.

VALUING WOMEN'S HEALTH



As the House Democratic Chair of the General Assembly's bipartisan, bicameral Women's Health Caucus, I choose to seek

out opportunities to support women. Women's health is an issue I care about deeply, and so I act on my values. I have introduced legislation on several topics that I believe would make life better for women, their families and their communities.

Nearly one year ago, I introduced House Bill 1177 on a topic that I thought was pretty straightforward and would be pretty simple for anyone, regardless of political leanings, to get behind: Make workplace accommodations for nursing mothers so their role in nourishing their babies is

easier. Mothers and their babies benefit from breastfeeding. This is a scientific fact.

About two-dozen states have laws on this topic. Pennsylvania does not. There is a federal law that says employers need to provide a private, sanitary space for non-exempt employees to express milk for up to one year after the birth of a child. But exempt employees include those that are on salary, often in managerial positions. My legislation would fix two loopholes in the federal law by making it so it applies to **all** employees, including those who are exempt from federal overtime provisions, and it would require employers to provide accommodations for breastfeeding mothers beyond one year after birth. I am not unreasonable, so my legislation would mirror the federal provision that exempts small employers from these requirements if they would present an undue hardship to the employer.

I believe this legislation is commonsense and would really help mothers who work outside of the home and their families.

SEPTA KEY SENIOR ID CARD UPDATE

SEPTA has informed my office that it is providing a one-year extension of all SEPTA Key Senior ID Cards expiring in the 2020 calendar year. Seniors with a card expiring in 2020 can continue to ride SEPTA using their current card for 12 months beyond the printed date of expiration. For example, cards with a May 2020 expiration date will be valid for travel through May 2021.



Even though no SEPTA Key Senior ID Cards will expire during the 2020 calendar year, cardholders with a Senior ID Card expiring in 2020 who wish to optionally renew their card in the coming year can obtain same-day card renewal at one of the below locations:

- SEPTA Headquarters – 1234 Market St., Philadelphia, 19107.
- SEPTA Accessible Travel Center – Room #109, Suburban Station, 15 N. 16th St, Philadelphia, 19107.

The changes noted above apply only to cards expiring in calendar year 2020 and do not affect new applications in any way. My office will continue to process in-person applications for **NEW** SEPTA Key Senior ID Cards, which are available to everyone age 65 or older with a valid ID.

FIGHTING TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

A piece of legislation recently pushed through the House is Senate Bill 790, which I strongly oppose because it would poison our communities.

This bill would allow hundreds of gallons of oil and drilling wastewater to be spilled by oil and gas companies without them having to report it.

Wastewater from drilling contains high levels of toxins and even some radioactivity. It's a threat to the water supply we use to drink, cook, wash and more.

In October of 2019, I co-chaired a policy hearing on water safety and cleanliness, where we heard expert testimony from representatives of several organizations with a keen interest in this topic.

The conservation of our abundant Pennsylvania waterways is critically important, particularly now that federal regulations are being stripped away. We cannot allow our state to go down the same path.



THE REPUBLICAN PLAN FOR "CLEAN" WATER



URGENT



Farm Show Fun



Did you know that two constituents from the 148th Legislative District fashioned the fabulous buttery creation at the 104th Pennsylvania Farm Show this winter? It featured Gritty! While I wish the Phanatic would have also made the cut, I absolutely loved this!



Check out more photos from the PA Farm Show, and watch a video showing how the butter sculpture was crafted, at my Facebook page – www.facebook.com/RepMJDaley.

BACKPACK FULL OF CASH



Rep. Tim Briggs and I thank all who attended the documentary screening of “Backpack Full of Cash” in early January at Ludington Library. The privatization of our public schools is a trend that we must reverse if we want to ensure equitable access to a decent education for all our children.

DOES THE STATE HAVE SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO YOU?

Have you checked the Pennsylvania Treasury’s Unclaimed Property database?

Unclaimed property can include a closed bank account, uncashed checks, certificates of deposit or lost stocks and bonds sent to the state because the owner could not be found.

My office can help you search the database to see if there’s property in your name and help you claim it. Contact my office at 610-832-1679 or search online at www.patreasury.gov.



SAVE THIS NUMBER! 717-780-6000

One way I occasionally provide news updates and alerts about upcoming events is via the telephone.

All calls originating from me and other House lawmakers use the same phone number, which means it sometimes gets marked as spam.

So, if you see the following number on your caller ID – 717-780-6000 – that’s me calling you with important news or a reminder of events I’m holding in our area.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE PROGRAM RETURNS

PennDOT’s Summer Maintenance Program for college students runs from May through August 2020 to supplement the permanent workforce.

All students must complete the required online application found by searching “summer maintenance program” at www.penndot.gov. Work includes road maintenance, sign upgrade services, roadside rest facility upkeep, flagging duties and more.

Candidates must be 18 or older, enrolled in a full-time college for the next semester and have a valid PA driver’s license. Hourly rate is \$13.97.





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Rep. Mary Jo Daley

lpo.kaf.0120

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

7-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 6

Conshohocken Borough Hall, 400 Fayette St., Conshohocken

I am teaming with Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network to help individuals who are seeking to expunge a criminal record, RSVPs are requested. Call my office at 610-832-1679

TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

7-8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 19

From the comfort of your home

Ask questions or voice concerns about your community. You will receive a call at 7 p.m. on your landline inviting you to join. If you wish to participate, simply stay on the line where you can listen or actively participate by voting in polls and asking questions. There also will be an option for cell phone users to participate. Visit my website, www.pahouse.com/MDaley, for those directions.

COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 11

My District Office, 815 Fayette St., Conshohocken

At these monthly events, we have discussed far-ranging topics with constituents from throughout the district. Due to space limitations, RSVPs are required. Call my office at 610-832-1679.

My office can help you with:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Birth and death certificates
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies