

Deasy working to protect animals

I am honored to co-sponsor legislation to be known as Victoria's Law, which would prohibit the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in pet stores throughout Pennsylvania, unless sourced from shelters and rescues. This bill would also require advertisers to include license numbers on their advertisements.

Victoria is a German shepherd who was rescued from a Pennsylvania puppy mill after 10 years of breeding. She is now paralyzed as a result of a genetic, neurological disorder called Degenerative Myelopathy, a disease she passed down to the estimated 150-200 puppies she produced while at the puppy mill.

New law now in effect to protect law enforcement, public safety and humane officers who come to the aid of animals in danger

Legislation I supported recently went into effect that protects first responders from liability when they act in good faith to rescue pets from locked vehicles.

Under this law, a police officer, public safety professional or humane officer has the authority to remove a dog or cat from the unattended vehicle if they believe the animal is suffering. The officer who removes the pet from an unattended vehicle may not be held liable for any damages.

If an officer removes a dog or cat from an unattended vehicle, the officer is required to take it to a veterinary hospital or animal care clinic for a health screening and treatment. The officer who removed the animal must leave a visible note stating the officer's information and where to pick up the pet.



STATE REP. DAN DEASY
P.O. Box 202027
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 529



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Dan Deasy

DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN, LIQUOR CONTROL COMMITTEE

27TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT • WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/DEASY • @REPDEASY

WINTER 2019

HERE TO SERVE YOU!

BEECHVIEW

Beechview Healthy Active Living Center
1555 Broadway Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Fridays
or by appt. by calling 412-928-9514

WEST END

436 S. Main St., Suite 100
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
412-928-9514

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

CAPITOL

304 Irvis Office Building
P.O. Box 202027
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027
717-772-8187

Deasy sworn in for new 2-year term

Appointed Democratic chairman of House Liquor Control Committee

On Jan. 1, I was sworn into office for my sixth two-year term representing the 27th Legislative District. I am humbled and honored to continue to serve my constituents.

This session while fighting for you in Harrisburg, I will continue spearheading a variety of outreach events in the district, some of which are detailed in this newsletter. Contact my office or visit my website at www.pahouse.com/deasy to learn about upcoming events.

Additionally, I am happy to report that I was appointed to serve as Democratic chairman of the House Liquor Control Committee for the 2019-20 term. This committee reviews and deliberates on all legislation involving the state's Liquor Code and oversees the operations of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, including liquor enforcement, privatization and liquor licensing.

I anticipate this will be a busy session as we examine legislation impacting our state's breweries, wineries, distilleries, and the 30,000-plus licensees in the commonwealth. I am excited for this new role and to work with the committee's Republican Chairman Jeff Pyle to move legislation that will support the burgeoning liquor industry in Pennsylvania.

Port Authority of Allegheny County making changes to Senior Bus Pass program



Since I was first elected, my office has partnered with the Port Authority of Allegheny County to assist seniors in applying for their FREE senior transit pass. We are proud to have completed thousands of applications over the years.

Port Authority is in the process of converting these paper passes to a new electronic card that will be tapped at the farebox when riding the bus, light rail vehicle or the Monongahela Incline. The card will also include the rider's name and photo. I am happy to report that my office will be equipped to take photos to help senior riders convert to the new Senior Citizen ConnectCard, and to help those who are looking to secure their initial senior transit pass.

Beginning April 29, senior citizens, ages 65 or older, will be able to come to my office to apply. Please bring one of the following forms of identification:

- Photo driver's license
- Birth certificate
- Armed forces discharge or separation papers
- Baptismal certificate
- PACE ID card
- Passport or naturalization papers
- Pennsylvania ID Card
- A statement of age from the U.S. Social Security Administration

There is no fee to apply. A new Senior Citizen ConnectCard will be produced and sent to my office for pickup in approximately three to four weeks. Seniors who currently have a blue (male) or yellow (female) paper transit pass must surrender it at that time in order to receive a new Senior Citizen ConnectCard.

In addition, seniors should also be aware that effective Jan. 1, 2020, Medicare cards will no longer be accepted on vehicles as proof of age under recent changes made to Pennsylvania's Free Transit Program for Seniors – so it's very important to get a Senior Citizen ConnectCard.

My office will be scheduling events at the senior centers and high rises in my district to help constituents apply if they are unable to come to my office. If you frequent a senior center or live in a high rise in my district, be on the lookout for a flier that will detail when we will be in your building.

Remember, this new program will not begin until the end of April. I am thrilled for the ongoing partnership with the Port Authority of Allegheny County, and for its commitment to serving the senior community and all residents that utilize this transit system. For more information, please call my office at 412-928-9514.

Deasy scores 100% on PA environmental scorecard for 2017-18

The Pennsylvania environmental scorecard is a joint project of the Conservation Voters of PA, PennEnvironment, the Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter and Clean Water Action.

The scorecard rates each member of the Pennsylvania Senate and House on their conservation record and actions taken to protect the environment in the commonwealth. The

scorecard holds state legislators accountable for their votes on open space, water and air issues that affect families across our state.

For the 2017-18 legislative session, I am proud to report that I voted 100 percent in favor of legislation that protects the environment.

Deasy stands with Attorney General Josh Shapiro in UPMC Dispute



Deasy stood with Attorney General Josh Shapiro as he announced filing a petition in Commonwealth Court to modify the consent decrees governing the relationship between UPMC and Highmark, two of the largest health care providers and insurers in the western Pennsylvania market. The petition requests that the Court impose modifications to protect and promote the public interest by ensuring that UPMC abides by its charitable obligations to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As Shapiro stated, his "petition has a simple goal: to restore fairness to the healthcare system in western Pennsylvania and promote the public interest by ensuring patient access to affordable care and facilities which they have funded through their tax dollars."

lpo • kaf • 0219

SAVE THE DATES! Protect yourself from identity theft!
Join State Rep. DAN DEASY and Sen. WAYNE FONTANA as they co-host

FREE PAPER SHREDDING EVENTS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SEN. WAYNE FONTANA AND CRAFTON BOROUGH
SATURDAY, MAY 4
8 A.M. – 11 A.M.
Or until the trucks are full
Crafton Park
167 W. Steuben Street
Crafton, PA 15205

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SEN. WAYNE FONTANA AND GREEN TREE BOROUGH
SATURDAY, MAY 11
8 A.M. – 11 A.M.
Or until the trucks are full
Green Tree Park
905 Green Tree Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY, AND HAVE PERSONAL DOCUMENTS SHREDDED.
Destroy all those old tax returns and important papers you have been holding on to, papers with personal information, including Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers.
Papers must be loose – no binder clips or paper clips. Documents cannot be in binders.

Documents will be shredded on-site by a reputable and bonded company.



Rep. Deasy reading at the Green Tree Library.

In partnership with Sen. Wayne Fontana, PA CareerLink & Building Bridges for Business Deasy to Host Job Fair on March 28



I'd like to encourage all job seekers to mark their calendars and make a point to **attend my Job Fair on Thursday, March 28, 4 p.m.–7 p.m., at St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall.** This is an excellent opportunity to converse and network with local employers looking to fill vacant positions.

The event, hosted by my office and that of state Sen. Wayne Fontana – and in partnership with PA CareerLink and Building Bridges for Business – is an annual event. Feel free to stop by and learn what local employers are looking for in prospective employees, and figure out what **YOU** can do to make yourself more marketable to employers.

For more information on this upcoming event, feel free to call my office at 412-928-9514.

In the meantime, I'd like to invite job seekers to utilize the **Employment Center** in my district office, 436 S. Main St., Suite 100, Pittsburgh. You're also encouraged to attend my **Workshop Wednesdays**.

The Employment Center in my district office is open to job seekers during weekday regular office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. My center has a computer that allows you to access a list of employers looking to fill job vacancies. This is a great opportunity

for job seekers to ask about unemployment issues, learn about open positions, meet with prospective employers or gain assistance in brushing up your resume or cover letter.

In the event you're in the market for a job, my Workshop Wednesdays may prove beneficial to your job search. The workshops, which take place every second Wednesday of the month from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., are in partnership with Building Bridges for Business. This is a great opportunity for those having issues with unemployment, and it's also a good way to get feedback on your resume and cover letter.

Our next Workshop Wednesday is on March 13, and attendees will have the opportunity to prepare for the upcoming job fair. This is an event you don't want to miss!

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS

In partnership with PA CareerLink & Building Bridges for Business

- **Workshop Wednesdays** – second Wednesday of each month from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. Come and utilize the Employment Center during these extended office hours. We will also feature job opportunities and skills/training programs during these events. Call for details 412-928-9514.

- **PA CareerLink Pop-Up location** – PA CareerLink will have a Pop-Up location in my office in conjunction with our Workshop Wednesdays. PA CareerLink will be here every other month to help residents with employment-related issues. Their upcoming dates are: March 13; May 8; July 10; Sept. 11; Nov. 13 (2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

Working to help veterans

To all veterans across the district and commonwealth – thank you for your service!

We're all so grateful for the sacrifices you've made for our great nation, which is why I wanted you to know about the outreach events at my office geared toward helping YOU.

The Veteran Outreach Clinics, which are hosted by my office and in partnership with U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle and the Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA, are designed to help veterans AND their families.

The clinics take place every third Friday of the month (March 15, April 19 and May 17) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you're a veteran, I highly recommend taking the time to attend one of these events. My staff will be on-hand to assist you and your family!



Deasy discussed issues with a veteran after a recognition event at the Mt. Washington Senior Center.

AROUND THE DISTRICT ...

DEASY'S BEECHVIEW SATELLITE LOCATION

Don't forget to visit our Beechview Satellite Location. If you need assistance with any state-related matter, my staff is ready to assist.

Beechview Healthy Active Living Center

1555 Broadway Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Fridays: 10 a.m. to Noon

Rep. Deasy is proud to partner with The Josh Gibson Foundation to provide an after school program at Langley K-6. Deasy is shown here with Sean Gibson, the Foundation's director.



Deasy meets with Crafton Borough Secretary RJ Susko and Rob Kaczorowski, Director of Public Works, to discuss issues impacting Crafton.



Deasy hosted one of his monthly senior info series events at the West End Senior Center recently, where he caught up with Sharif Zyhier to talk about his role at the centers.



Deasy meets with Dave Montz, Ron Panza and David Lorenzini from Green Tree Borough to discuss local and state issues.



Deasy is a strong advocate for animal rights. See page 5 for details on a few recent bills he supports.

Legislation I recently introduced

H.B. 205 – Protecting Senior Citizens

This legislation aims to protect senior citizens from being exploited by a designated power of attorney. Specifically, my bill would broaden the definition of "exploitation" under the Older Adults Protective Services Act to include an individual acting under a power of attorney.

H.B. 206 – Protecting Student Drivers

This bill would require the creation and use of a Student Driver sign. Under my bill, a student driver would have to place a student-driver sign on the rear of a vehicle that the student driver is operating to alert other drivers that a student is operating the vehicle.

H.B. 207 – Protecting Seniors & Disabled

This measure would amend the Taxpayer Relief Act to prohibit a landlord and a tenant from entering into an agreement in which the tenant is required to pay any portion of his or her rent rebate to the landlord or the landlord's representative. This legislation would guarantee that seniors and those with disabilities are able to keep all of the funds they are entitled to under the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.

H.B. 208 – Supporting First Responders

In support of our volunteer emergency first responders, this legislation would offer a \$500 state income tax credit to volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians/paramedics, and volunteer members of ambulance services and rescue squads.

H.B. 209 – Helping Volunteer Firefighters

Firefighters put their lives on the line to keep us safe. They should not be taxed for their personal purchases of firefighter equipment. Therefore, I have introduced legislation that would exempt individual firefighters from paying sales tax on personal purchases of firefighter equipment.

H.B. 228 – Measure to help create jobs/reduce blight

This would establish a Cultural Development District program as a means to create jobs, reduce blight and revitalize distressed communities within the commonwealth. Under my legislation, municipalities would be able to propose the establishment of so-called "cultural development districts." The districts would be defined as geographically contiguous areas surrounding a cultural anchor, such as major art institutions, community arts centers, entertainment businesses, museums, markets, theaters, and similar entities.

H.B. 229 – Assisting Veterans with College

This bill would amend Title 51 (Military Affairs) to require the establishment of a "Combat to College" program at state education institutions. The legislation would promote a veteran-friendly educational environment to assist veterans and returning deployed service members in attaining a degree from a higher education institution.

H.B. 230 – Help for Seniors with Delinquent Real Estate Taxes

This measure would require counties and municipalities to delay the claim and sale of a property with delinquent real estate taxes for a period of: (1) five years if a sole homeowner has reached at least 65 years of age or joint homeowners have reached a combined age of at least 130

years; and (2) permanently if a sole homeowner has reached at least 75 years of age or joint homeowners have reached a combined age of at least 150 years.

H.B. 231 – Protecting Construction Workers

My legislation would make the use of handheld electronic devices within an active construction zone a summary offense.

H.B. 232 – Helping College Students

I am sponsoring legislation that would establish a Community College Education Assistance Program with the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA).

The continually rising cost of a college education has made obtaining a college degree hard for many. Community colleges throughout the commonwealth play a vital role in allowing students to secure a quality education at an affordable price, and also provide a stepping stone for some to pursue a four-year degree.

However, after community college, many students confront the harsh reality of high tuition rates at many four-year colleges and universities. Realizing this, my legislation would establish the "Educational Assistance Program" within PHEAA. The program would provide financial assistance to eligible students who have completed 60 credits at a Pennsylvania community college and who have maintained a 3.0 cumulative grade-point average. Assistance would be provided to these students by requiring PHEAA to disregard one-third of the student's expected family contribution (EFC) and federal Pell grant award when calculating the student's state grant amount.

H.B. 325 – Establishing the Pennsylvania Distilled Spirits Industry Promotion Board

Over the past several years, the Pennsylvania Legislature has made significant changes to the craft distillery industry, allowing for record-level growth and expansion.

Since 2012, Pennsylvania has gone from having only four limited distilleries to more than 100. While this level of growth is exciting, distillers are still faced with unique challenges not seen in the production of wine or beer.

Recently, Pennsylvania has created marketing and research promotion boards for both wine and brewed beverages. Our limited distilleries deserve the same level of support and opportunities that other industries are provided.

As such, my proposal would create the Pennsylvania Distilled Spirits Industry Promotion Board. The board would be comprised of appointees designated by the governor and legislature, and charged with awarding \$1 million in grants for the use of promotion, marketing and research-based projects which benefit the industry.

