



State Representative

Angel Cruz

180th Legislative District

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SUMMER 2022

Celebrating 22 Years of Service

Thank You for Your Trust!

Dear neighbor,

Soon I will be celebrating 22 years of service. I have been a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives since 2001. It has been two decades of relentless community work. I have been deeply and passionately involved in all issues affecting our community.

In light of this milestone, and as a lifelong advocate for the most vulnerable residents of the commonwealth, I want to extend a heartfelt gratitude to you, my constituents.

The list of the battles that we have conquered together is extensive. In the next pages I will share more information about some of the most impactful bills that I have introduced to benefit our district.

You have trusted me with your dreams, sorrows, and hope of a better quality of life for your family, and that is an enormous honor that I cannot take for granted.

Warm regards,

Angel Cruz





Recent Legislation

A Push to Help Curb Crime and Violence

Most recently, I proposed legislation that aims to reduce violence and would require the Office of Attorney General to establish a statewide gun buyback program in conjunction with the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police. We need to combat crime and reduce the number of guns sold on the streets.

Fighting Inequality

I have helped secure grants for numerous non-profit organizations and projects in the district. My goal has always been to provide much needed services to the community. I am proud to say that my work was influential in securing \$1.5 million for impact services at the A & Indiana Campus in Philadelphia. My thanks go to Governor Wolf for releasing the funds to help our constituents. The funding is for renovations at the Mill Building, turning it into a mixed-use space with affordable housing and multi-tenant community services building.

Disposal of Waste Tires

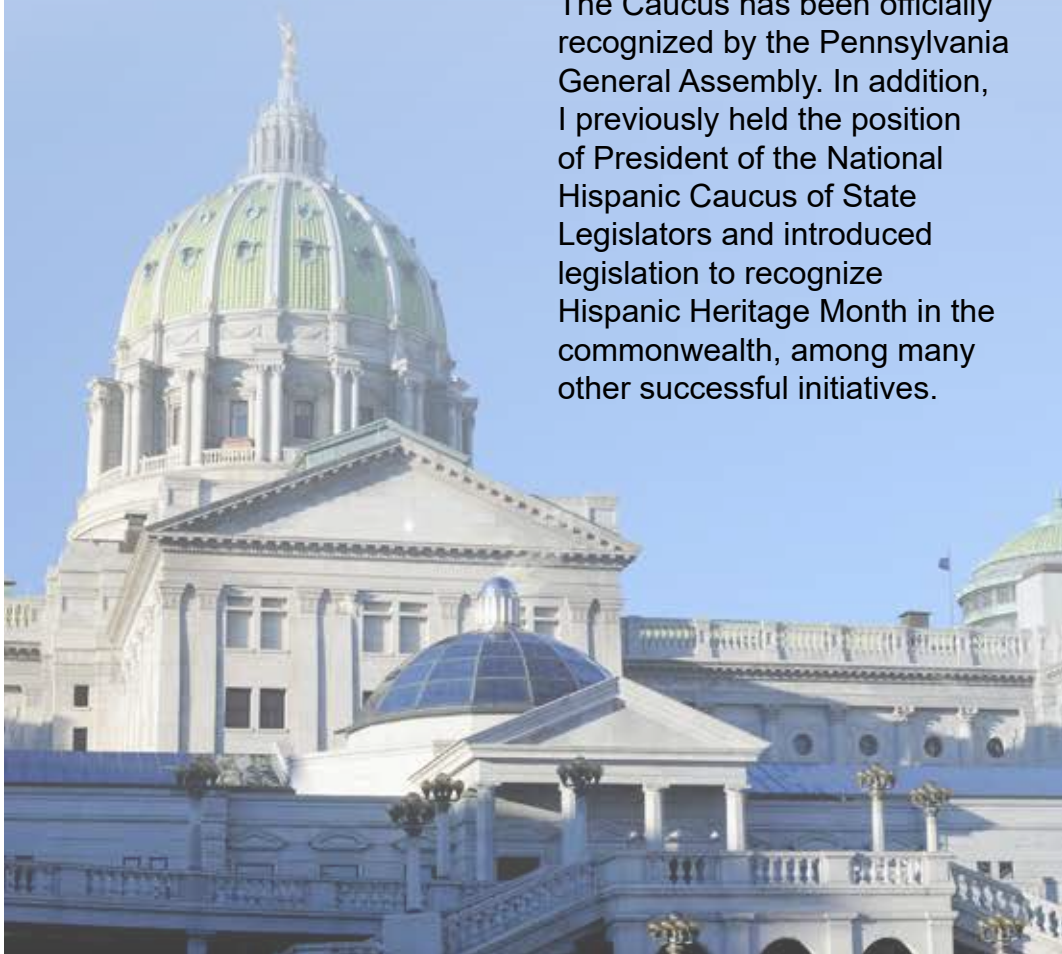
My Disposal of Waste Tires legislation would provide the City of Philadelphia with the tools to address the harmful environmental, safety, and community impact of illegal dumping of waste tires. The bill would require businesses dealing in or hauling waste tires to keep records on their inventory, expand waste tire disposal programs, and enforce compliance with the Waste Tire Disposal Act.

Groundbreaking Act

It was also gratifying for me when Act 148, the Newborn Child Testing Act, was signed into law in 2014. It expanded newborn screening in Pennsylvania and provided a follow-up program to newborns.

Empowering Latino Pennsylvanians

I am the chairman and founder of the Latino Affairs Caucus, the first formal bicameral, bipartisan caucus that seeks to advocate for Latino Pennsylvanians. The Caucus has been officially recognized by the Pennsylvania General Assembly. In addition, I previously held the position of President of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators and introduced legislation to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month in the commonwealth, among many other successful initiatives.



Events Around The Community and Grants That You Can't Miss



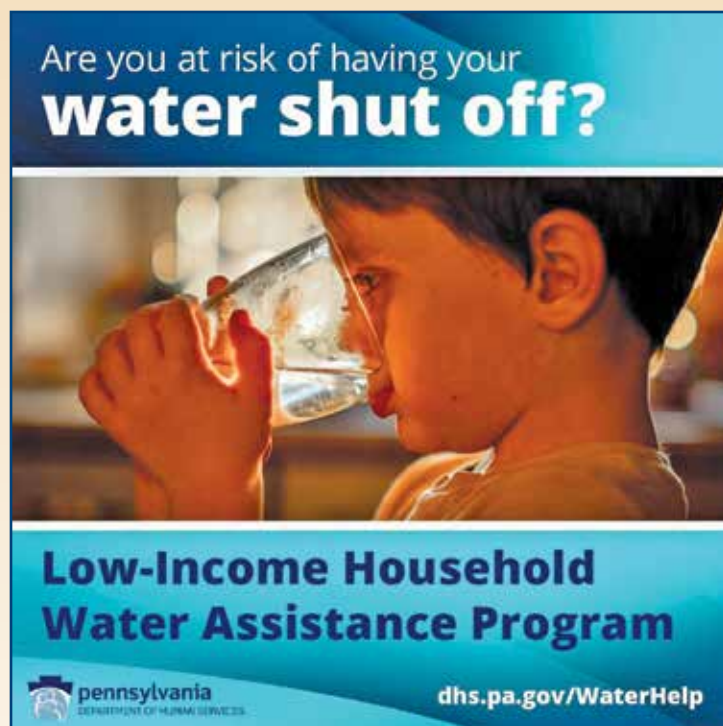
PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM
for residents who are permanently disabled, 50+ and widowed, or 65+
Application Deadline: December 31, 2022

What we need from you:

- EVERYONE**
✓ All earned income tax forms (1099 SSI, W2s, etc.)
- HOMEOWNERS**
✓ Copies of all paid tax bills
- RENTERS**
✓ Signed form from the landlord

\$35,000
household income for homeowners &
\$15,000
household income for renters

For those on Social Security: half of SSI/SSD income is excluded for eligibility



Are you at risk of having your **water shut off?**

Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES dhs.pa.gov/WaterHelp

Property Tax /Rent Rebate

The deadline for older and disabled Pennsylvanians to apply for rebates on rent and property taxes paid in 2021 has been extended to December 31, 2022. The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. For more information and to apply visit: www.revenue.pa.gov.

Included in this year's budget was an additional one-time appropriation to increase payments for Pennsylvanians who receive a Property Tax/Rent Rebate. This was made possible thanks to money Pennsylvania received from the federal government's American Rescue Plan.

A Program That Can Help You Pay Overdue Water and Wastewater Bills

Take advantage of the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), a plan that can help you pay overdue water and wastewater bills. This is a temporary emergency program. LIHWAP crisis grants may be available if you have an emergency situation and are in jeopardy of losing your water service. LIHWAP is a grant -- you do not have to repay it. You can receive one crisis grant for your drinking water service and one crisis grant for your wastewater service, up to \$2,500 each. Learn more about this program at: www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp.

Get Ready to Participate in My Shredding Event!

Get ready! In October I will be hosting a free paper shredding event where you will be able to bring boxes of confidential papers to be safely shredded and recycled. You are welcome to call my district office to get more information as the time comes near. Staff will be on hand to share state privacy resources and

to help with any state-related questions or concerns. This event will allow you to protect against identity theft by shredding bank statements, tax documents, insurance claims forms, and anything that lists a Social Security or account number. Stay tuned for more information!



lpo.kd.0822

The federal REAL ID Act has been extended in Pennsylvania until May 3, 2023

The best thing you can do to prepare for REAL ID is to get your documents together:

✓ Proof of Identity

✓ Two current, physical proofs of PA residency

✓ Social Security card

✓ Proof of all legal name changes



Visit **PENNDOT.GOV/REALID**

Get the REAL ID

Beginning May 3, 2023, 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 commercial flight or enter a federal building or military installation that requires ID. For more information about this, please go to PennDOT's website at: www.dmv.pa.gov/REALID.



Smart Planning for the Future

Saving for future education is always important, and the PA 529 Guaranteed Savings Plan allows families to effortlessly do that. PA 529 Guaranteed Savings Plan account owners who have a minimum of \$100 in contributions will receive an extra \$100 account deposit and have their asset-based fees waived for the fiscal year. This is a great opportunity to invest in post high school education. To learn more about the plans, visit pa529.com.



A New Suicide Prevention Hotline has Launched

Pennsylvania now offers a new dialing code for suicide prevention and support. This is a new way to connect to behavioral or mental health crisis services in Pennsylvania. The dialing code 988 can connect you directly to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The existing Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will remain available. Callers can also connect with the Veterans Crisis Line and get assistance in Spanish.


NEED HELP?

It's okay to not be okay.

If you or a loved one are struggling, help is a call, text, or message away:

 Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

 Call 9-8-8 (starting July 16th)
If not available in your area yet, call the Lifeline #

 Text 'PA' to 741741
Crisis Text Line

 Visit 988lifeline.org/chat
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline online chat



Learn About the Achieving Independence Center

The Achieving Independence Center (AIC) provides resources, classes, employment, and housing services to youth who are preparing to age out of the system. The AIC is a safe and communal space for teens and young adults, ages 14-21, who are currently in foster care or have been in Philadelphia foster care. Youth are matched with an AIC coach who can provide personalized assistance. For more information visit: <https://www.phila.gov/programs/achieving-independence-center-aic/>