



State Representative ▾ 191st Legislative District

JOANNA E. McCLINTON

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UPCOMING EVENTS

SOUTHWEST ENERGY FORUM

JAN. 14 ■ 6 – 8 P.M.

12th Police District
6448 Woodland Ave., Phila

FOOD GIVEAWAY

JAN. 16 ■ 11 A.M. – 1 P.M.

Blanche A. Nixon/Cobbs Creek Library
5800 Cobbs Creek Pkwy., Phila

MLK DAY DELAWARE COUNTY EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

JAN. 19 ■ 10 A.M. – 1 P.M.

Darby Borough Council
1020 Ridge Ave., Darby

Call my office at (215) 748-6712 for more information.

lpo.sh.0126

CHECK INSIDE FOR COMMUNITY PHOTOS, INFO ABOUT PROGRAMS THAT CAN SAVE YOU MONEY, AND MORE!

NEW FOR 2026

Save Money on your State Taxes

Each year, more Pennsylvanians are qualifying for a break at tax time.

As part of this year's state budget, I voted to give a tax break to nearly a million Pennsylvania families, including more than 200,000 in Philadelphia and Delaware counties.

It is called the Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit – because working people deserve a break!

If you qualify for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit, you automatically qualify to save an additional 10% on your state taxes. That is money you can spend on groceries, childcare, or any other expense.

This new program is just the latest on our agenda to cut taxes for Pennsylvanians.

If you are a senior, you may already have received more money back as part of an expansion and increase in the [Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program](#) in 2023. More than 24,000 local seniors became eligible under the expansion and the max rebate increased to \$1,000.

And if your household has expenses for child or dependent care, you may benefit from the [Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit](#), which we tripled in 2024, and now families with two or more children can save up to \$2,000. More than 40,000 local families saved money last year.

WORKING PENNSYLVANIANS TAX CREDIT Putting money back in YOUR pocket

Dependents	Income Limit (Single/Head of Household)	Income Limit (Joint)	Maximum Tax Cut Back in YOUR Pocket
Zero	\$19,104	\$26,214	\$65
One	\$50,434	\$57,554	\$433
Two	\$57,310	\$64,430	\$715
Three or More	\$61,555	\$68,675	\$805

* Returns filed jointly are counted as two individuals. Does not reflect qualifying children or dependents.



My six-year journey to get hair discrimination banned in Pennsylvania ended in November, when Gov. Josh Shapiro signed the CROWN Act into law. I was proud that the Governor signed the bill at West Philly's Island Design Natural Hair Studio, and that I got to share the history-making event with my Goddaughter, Lorel. Passing the CROWN Act is a victory for every person who has felt out of place, unwelcome or discriminated against because of their hair style or texture AND a victory for everyone who attended a rally, called their lawmaker or wore their crown with pride.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOANNA E. McCLINTON

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

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SERVING THE COMMUNITY



Dear Neighbor,

The holiday season is wrapping up, and I loved seeing so many of you at our office events — from the Fall Festival in October to my Veterans Luncheon in November to Celebrating the Season with Seniors last month.

It was a busy year, with a lot to be celebrated. I am still counting my blessings from 2025 and getting excited about what 2026 will hold.

I know the news from Washington, DC, has often been confusing and disturbing. Changes to federal programs like SNAP and Medicaid are impacting many of our neighbors.

But in Harrisburg, we're working to save you and your family money and strengthen our communities, schools and workplaces.

In this newsletter, I'm happy to share information about some new and returning initiatives to help you save money in 2026 and other ways I'm working to make our community stronger.



If you want to receive information from me regularly and be the first to know about upcoming events, sign up for my weekly e-newsletter or follow me on social media. You can always call or stop by my office for help on any state-related issue! Learn more at pahouse.com/McClinton or scan the QR code.

Joanna E. McClinton

WEAR YOUR **CROWN** WITH PRIDE!

Pennsylvania made history in November, when it became the 28th state to pass the CROWN Act; a new law that bans discrimination based on hair type, texture and style.

Like many African Americans, I have felt the pressure to wear my hair a certain way to meet someone else's expectations – and that is unfair. In 2019, I first introduced the CROWN Act in the state House. It took six years of hard work to convince Republicans in the House and Senate to debate the bill, but when they did, the bill earned overwhelming support.

In November, Gov. Josh Shapiro signed the CROWN Act into law at the Island Design Natural Hair Studio in West Philadelphia.

Passing the CROWN Act in Pennsylvania was part of a national movement to ban hair discrimination. And even though it took six years, we never stopped building support from individuals, businesses, and communities, and that support helped us to finally get the CROWN Act signed into law.



I am so proud that the CROWN Act, which I first introduced in 2019, was signed into law by Gov. Josh Shapiro in November at the Island Design Natural Hair Studio. I brought my Goddaughter, Lorel, with me to the bill signing, because I'm hopeful no one in her generation will need to worry about wearing their hair to meet someone else's expectations.



From left to right: Patrolman Matthew O'Donnell of the Yeadon Police Department, Yeadon Police Chief Henry Giammarco, Speaker Joanna McClinton, Cpl. Joseph O'Donnell of the Darby Police Department, and Darby Police Chief Joseph Gabe.

Honoring Local Heroes

In 2024, I created the Speaker's Meritorious Service Medal to honor people who have made important contributions to our state. In the award's second year, I was proud to recognize the bravery and efforts of two Delaware County police officers, Cpl. Joseph O'Donnell of the Darby Police Department and Patrolman Matthew O'Donnell of the Yeadon Police Department, who provided lifesaving care to a choking baby.

The officers and their families, as well as Yeadon Mayor Rohan K. Hepkins and each department's police chief, attended a ceremony at the state Capitol in December.

Cpl. O'Donnell and Patrolman O'Donnell, who are brothers, were recognized in the House Chamber and received a standing ovation.

Keep Seniors Safe At Home

Like many in our community, I was devastated by the news of Ms. Rose Maxine Goodman's death during a home invasion in September 2023.

There are many home security devices like doorbell cameras or exterior lighting that can be used to keep seniors safe.

I'm introducing a plan to keep seniors safe at home, even if they are on a fixed income. My bill, "Ms. Rose's law," would create a

statewide program administered by the Department of Aging in partnership with local law enforcement to distribute and install home security measures for older adults.

Today's technology can help deter criminal activity and provide vital evidence when crimes occur. My bill would ensure that seniors have access to these lifesaving tools to safeguard their well-being.

Community Events

HEALTHY FROM HEAD TO TOE



OCTOBER 2025

It was great to see hundreds of my neighbors at a health fair co-sponsored by me and Philadelphia City Council President Kenyatta Johnson in October. The event was at the 58th Street Presbyterian Home, and participants were treated to lunch, offered health screenings, and enjoyed a performance by Philadelphia's own Grammy-nominated *The Stylistics*.

SOUTHWEST PHILLY FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 2025

It is always uplifting to see our community's children ready for Halloween. At this year's Fall Festival, children from throughout the community came in costume and played games and in bounce houses, and got their faces painted. There was also free food and information on state services and resources.



HONORING OUR VETERANS



NOVEMBER 2025

I was honored to partner with my colleague state Rep. Regina Young to host an event to celebrate local military veterans. The event was at the Southwest PAL Center and featured a keynote address from former American Legion Post Commander Lorenzo Jackson.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH SENIORS

DECEMBER 2025

It is important to take care of your health year-round, and especially at the holidays. I was happy to have so many of my wisest neighbors attend my annual senior health fair at Motivation High School, where they had lunch, met with vendors and got in a quick workout with Audra from BeautiFitStrong.



It was an honor to present Ms. Alma Elizabeth Bailey with a legislative citation at my annual senior luncheon. Ms. Bailey served in the United States Cadet Nursing Corps at Tuskegee University in Alabama – the home of the celebrated African American airmen of WWII. Ms. Bailey worked in the nursing field from 1943 until 1987. She celebrated her hundredth birthday in June 2025.