State Representative

KRISTINE HOWARD

167th Legislative District

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RepKHoward.com • /RepKHoward • @RepKHoward

Summer 2026

Dear Neighbor,

My staff and I have been hard at work throughout the long, hot summer. From road concerns to state tax questions, we are ready to help you.

I have introduced new legislation to help Pennsylvanians in a variety of ways, including a bill to modernize dental coverage (HB 2722) and another to encourage investment in green infrastructure (HB 2720).

Additionally, data center development remains a serious concern here in the 167th Legislative District and across Pennsylvania. My General Assembly colleagues and I are working to address this issue legislatively through measures like HB 1834, a ratepayer protection bill; HB 2674, which would prevent data centers from claiming public utility status; and SB 1359, a statewide moratorium on data center development.

I look forward to a busy fall and hope to see many of you at my annual Senior Fair on October 8.

To stay in the loop regarding upcoming bills and events, sign up for email blasts by visiting www.pahouse.com/Howard/ or follow me on Facebook.

Best wishes,

Kristine C. Howard

Kristine Howard

Senior Fair

Thursday, October 8
10 a.m. – Noon
West Whiteland Township Building
101 Commerce Drive
Exton, PA 19341

Have a cup of coffee and learn about the valuable state and municipal services and resources available. Don't forget to sign up for door prizes when you arrive!

Event Highlights:

- SEPTA Senior Key Cards
- Flu/Covid/RSV/Pneumonia Vaccines
- Blood Pressure Screenings
- Recording of DD-214 documents by the Chester County Recorder of Deeds
- State and County experts to answer your questions

Protect Yourself from Scams

Scams seem to be everywhere these days. Learn how best to protect yourself.

Watch for These Red Flags:

- Unexpected calls, texts, or emails asking for personal or financial information.
- Pressure to keep a conversation or payment secret.
- Pressure to act immediately.
- Request for payment via gift card, wire transfer, cryptocurrency, or payment app.
- Any offer that sounds too good to be true.

Common Scams Targeting Older Adults:

- Grandparent scams – Someone pretending to be a family member in an emergency.
- Someone asking for your Medicare number or attempting to bill for services never received.
- Tech support scams – Pop-up messages or calls claiming your computer has a virus and asking for payment or remote access.
- Prize or lottery scams – Asking for a fee to claim a prize.
- Romance scams – Apparent romantic connections moving quickly to requests for money.

How to Protect Yourself

- Never share passwords, account numbers, or Medicare information with unexpected callers.
- Slow down. Do not let anyone rush your decision.
- Verify requests by contacting the person or organization using a telephone number you already know.
- Speak with a trusted family member or friend before sending money.
- If something doesn't feel right, hang up, delete the message, or walk away.
- Ensure that email addresses line up with the organization's actual site; scammers often have domain names (the ".com" or ".gov" or ".org" portion) that look similar to a real one but are just slightly off.
- Very importantly: if an email or text message seems suspicious to you, DO NOT open any links inside.

If You Think You've Been Scammed

Immediately contact your bank or credit card company, report the incident to local law enforcement and/or the Federal Trade Commission, and notify a trusted family member or friend. The sooner you report a scam, the better your chances of limiting the damage.

Satellite Office Hours

Members of my staff will be on site at locations across the district on the following days:

Henrietta Hankin Library
2nd Wednesday of each month
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Chester County Library
4th Tuesday of each month
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Report Potholes

Potholes and other roadway concerns on state roads can be reported by calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD or visiting www.penndot.gov and clicking on "Submit Roadway Feedback."

New Legislation

Green Infrastructure Tax Credit (HB 2720)

Pennsylvania communities face worsening flooding, stormwater runoff, and aging infrastructure challenges. Heavy rainfall is becoming more frequent, overwhelming stormwater systems, damaging homes and businesses, and placing financial burdens on both municipalities and individual taxpayers.

Investment in green infrastructure offers a more practical and cost-effective solution than conventional infrastructure approaches. Practices such as permeable pavement, green roofs, rain gardens, and other stormwater management systems absorb rainfall before it can overwhelm drainage systems, reducing flood risk while improving water quality and infrastructure resilience.

A new Green Infrastructure Tax Credit program would allow eligible property owners and businesses to claim a credit for a portion of the costs associated with installing projects certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Every dollar spent to prevent flooding goes further than a dollar spent to mitigate damage after it occurs. By incentivizing private investment, Pennsylvania can leverage private dollars to provide public benefits and reduce future costs borne by governments and taxpayers.

Beyond financial savings, green infrastructure improves water quality in our communities, reduces pressure on stormwater systems, and helps us prepare for increasingly severe weather events.

Modernizing Dental Coverage (HB 2722)

Pennsylvanians spend between $6 billion and $7.5 billion on dental care annually. Coverage gaps, whether intentional or not, can result in providers failing to receive full compensation for their work, with these costs either absorbed by the practice or passed directly on to the patient. When dental staff are required to call and speak with insurance representatives about a patient's history or benefits used, valuable time that could be spent on office coordination and patient care is wasted, increasing costs.

Additionally, insurance representatives sometimes make mistakes or provide inaccurate information that can ultimately result in lost income for dentists when an insurance provider fails to honor its own representative's statements.

Frequently, dentists stop working with insurers that create these problems, effectively forcing patients to switch practices or insurance providers. These changes are inconvenient and potentially expensive for patients and carry no guarantee of better service or coverage.

Requiring the use of provider portals would help eliminate these problems. Some insurers already implement this practice, but others have not prioritized integrating convenient communication with the services needed by their policyholders. Mandating regularly updated patient health history and coverage information and clarifying that a statement of coverage creates reasonable reliance on that statement, would ensure that both dentists and patients benefit.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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VISIT PAHOUSE.COM/HOWARD AND SIGN UP FOR MY EMAIL NEWSLETTER TO STAY UP-TO-DATE!

Register to Vote

Oct. 19: Last day to register to vote / vote.pa.gov/register

Oct. 27: Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot / vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot

Nov. 3: General Election Day / Polls are open on Election Day from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

For more info and to register online, visit vote.pa.gov or contact my district office to obtain a voter registration paper application.

Birth Certificates and Death Certificates

My office can help you obtain copies of birth and death certificates. Certificates cost $20 each, paid via check or money order made payable to "VITAL RECORDS."

Property Tax/ Rent Rebate

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians aged 65 and older; widows and widowers aged 50 and older; and people with disabilities aged 18 and older.

The income limit is $45,000 a year, with half of Social Security income excluded. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of deceased claimants who meet all other eligibility criteria. Visit www.revenue.pa.gov for more information.

Applications are due by **December 31, 2026**.