



State Representative **JORDAN HARRIS**

Representing the 186th Legislative District



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**HEARD
IT FROM HARRIS**

- BIKE 186 BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER TO OUR COMMUNITY
- HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR REAL ID?
- CLEAN SLATE SEMINAR HELPS COMMUNITY MEMBERS MOVE ON

BIKE 186TH

7TH ANNUAL

GIVEAWAY!

Each year, I contact local businesses and community members to ask for donations to host my annual Bike 186 event. The idea for a bike giveaway in December comes from my belief that all children should have the opportunity to own a bike and use it to see the community we live in. Biking represents fun, freedom and fresh air while promoting a healthy, active lifestyle in our children. The smiles on kids' faces as they receive their own bike is something I'll never get tired of!



I love helping bring the Pennsylvania WoodMobile to local schools so our students can learn about the vast forestry industry that exists in other parts of our state.

Last fall, we held a Cost of College event at Prep Charter High School to help local students and their parents understand the choices and options that go into paying for higher education.

WHAT IS REAL ID?



To get a REAL ID:

If you got your first driver's license or photo ID after 2003, you may be able to apply online because PennDOT may have your documentation already on file. If not, you must visit a Driver License Center with your original or certified copies of the necessary documentation to get them verified. You may also apply online if you have been pre-verified.

Online:

Visit www.dmv.pa.gov to request confirmation that your documents are on file by applying for pre-verification. If you are notified by PennDOT that you are "verified," you can opt into the REAL ID program online and pay the one-time fee, plus the renewal fee and your REAL ID will be mailed to you within 15 days.

In person:

If your documentation is not on file with PennDOT, you may get your documents verified by visiting any Driver License Center with your original or certified copies of the required documents. Once they are "verified," you can order your REAL ID in person or go online later. You could receive your REAL ID within 15 days.

Necessary documentation:

- Social Security card
- Birth certificate OR valid passport
- Two acceptable proofs of PA residency:
 - Current PA driver's license/ID card
 - Current PA vehicle registration
 - Proof of insurance
 - Bank statement (no more than 90 days old)
 - W-2 form or pay stub
 - Tax records
 - Lease agreement or mortgage documents
- Proof of all legal name changes (if applicable)
 - Certified marriage certificate
 - Court order

Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID to:

-  Board a domestic flight
-  Enter a federal building
-  Enter a military base

To learn more, please visit:

www.dmv.pa.gov/realid

The REAL ID Act is a federal law that affects how states issue driver's licenses and ID cards. Specifically, the REAL ID Act changes what type of ID is acceptable for federal purposes, such as boarding a domestic commercial flight or entering a military installation or federal facility that requires ID. REAL ID is optional for Pennsylvania residents, but it's important to understand how your travel may be restricted without a REAL ID.

You DO NOT need a REAL ID to drive, vote, access hospitals, visit the post office, access federal courts, or apply for or receive federal benefits.



October 1, 2020 is the
deadline to get a REAL ID.

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY



Each year, I love hosting my Trunk or Treat event to give neighbors and children a safe, fun Halloween experience outside my district office.



I joined fellow legislator Rep. Jared Solomon for a Shabbat service at Temple Beth'El in Philadelphia to gain a greater appreciation for the Jewish African American community.



In mid-January, I visited a Philadelphia County prison to speak to juvenile inmates about being ready to make the most of their second chance once they're released.



This year, on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, I was joined by community-based legal service organizations for a Clean Slate clinic. In just two hours, we helped over 70 of our neighbors see if they're eligible for Clean Slate.

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

My office has received Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program application forms from the state Department of Revenue – and my staff is ready to help you file yours!

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters. Half of Social

Security income is excluded and the maximum standard rebate is \$650.

If you receive a letter or phone call offering assistance for a fee, please ignore it. The Department of Revenue does not charge a fee to process your application. If you need help filing your application, please come to my district office at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. or call us at 215-952-3378.

INCREASING AVAILABILITY OF HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

In January, I was proud to announce that the Chester A. Arthur School in our district would be receiving a nearly \$3,000 grant for the purchase of a new cafeteria cooler. The grant funding comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Studies have shown that students

who eat a healthy, nutritious diet are able to learn and retain information much better than students who are hungry. It's so much easier to start healthy eating habits at a young age, so I'm thrilled that this grant will not only help students have educational success, but hopefully create the foundation of healthy eating to last a lifetime.

CONGRESSMAN DWIGHT EVANS JOINS US FOR OFFICE HOURS

I'm pleased to announce that Congressman Dwight Evans, my former colleague when he represented parts of Philadelphia in the state House, will be sending staff to my district office on Point Breeze Avenue to help with any questions you may have about federal government issues. On the fourth Wednesday of each month between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., you're invited to stop by and have your questions about federal agencies and issues answered. Don't hesitate to stop by at 1310 Point Breeze Ave. to take advantage of this collaboration between state and federal legislators.

GOVERNOR OUTLINES BOLD BUDGET FOR 2020-2021

In early February, Gov. Tom Wolf outlined his sixth budget proposal and it included many priorities that we've been fighting for over the past few years. I've been proud to vote for recent budgets that have increased the education funding our schools receive. This year is no different, as we're looking to provide more educational opportunities at all levels.

This budget proposal seeks to increase the number of young children who take part in Pennsylvania's Pre-K Counts and Head Start programs, as well as implement a statewide expansion to full-day kindergarten for every child. It also looks to increase basic education funding by \$100 million for K-12 students and increase special education funding by \$25 million. In addition, and of extreme importance to Philadelphia, the governor is looking to allow schools to apply for grant money to replace crumbling infrastructure and get asbestos and lead out of our schools. Students and teachers deserve a safe and secure learning environment, and this budget would help them achieve that.

The governor's budget also makes key investments to help Philadelphia reduce gun violence. I've brought Gov. Wolf to Philadelphia in the past to show him firsthand the unimaginable violence far too many Philadelphians live with. With help from some of my fellow legislators, we helped the governor create the Gun Violence Task Force, which removes illegal guns from our streets. Thankfully, this budget adds \$4 million to the task force and an additional \$6 million to a program through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to go toward programs shown to decrease gun violence. We simply can't allow this violence that's plaguing our streets and destroying our families to continue, and I'll stand with Gov. Wolf to fight against it.

We all understand the value of clean air, land and water, and this budget proposal aims to strengthen and protect

our beautiful environment and natural resources. We can't protect our environment without the employees who work for the Department of Environmental Protection, and the governor is looking to increase funding so we can get

back to proper staffing levels. The governor is also asking the legislature to pass legislation that would increase safety during the construction and operation of pipelines to ensure they're operated as safely as possible.

Though there is much more to highlight in the governor's budget proposal, the last item I'll mention specifically is his call to increase the minimum wage in Pennsylvania. All of our neighboring states have increased their minimum wage, but Pennsylvania is still using the federal government's minimum of \$7.25 per hour. We all know that inflation has driven up the cost of groceries, gas, and just about everything else in our lives. It's cruel to expect adults to support themselves, let alone children, on only \$7.25 per hour. I've been extremely vocal about raising the minimum wage and I'll continue to do so.

Over the next few months, there will be multiple budget hearings where specific plans and policies will be discussed. The budget will certainly change and some of our priorities will happen while others won't. I'll keep you updated on the process and continue fighting to strengthen Pennsylvania and our district here in Philadelphia.





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DO YOU QUALIFY FOR CLEAN SLATE?

Since Gov. Tom Wolf signed the Clean Slate Act in 2018, I've travelled the state talking about how Clean Slate can help and held Clean Slate events in our district. This legislation can help provide life-changing opportunities for people, so I will continue to be vocal about ensuring everyone knows that their second chance is possible through Clean Slate.

You may qualify for limiting access to your criminal record if you were convicted of a third-degree misdemeanor, a second-degree misdemeanor, or an ungraded offense which carries a maximum penalty of no more than two years; you have been conviction-free for 10 years for any offense punishable by one year or more in prison; and you have paid all court-ordered financial obligations associated with your sentence.

If you believe you meet these qualifications, please contact my office for help at (215) 952-3378, contact Community Legal Services of Philadelphia at (215) 981-3700, or visit www.mycleanslatepa.com. In addition to Clean Slate, I'm continuing to push for probation reform in Harrisburg to create a more fair and equitable criminal justice system that stops trapping people in the quicksand that is our probation system. I hope to have updates on my legislation, House Bill 1555, in the near future.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH HOME HEATING COSTS?

Pennsylvania's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is still accepting applications until April 10, 2020. LIHEAP offers cash grants to help with home heating bills and crisis grants to help with emergency situations, such as a broken furnace or an unexpected fuel shortage.

Renters and homeowners who qualify can have a cash grant – which does not need to be repaid – sent directly to their utility company or fuel provider. Grants range from \$200 to \$1,000 based on household size, income and fuel type. For more information or to see if you qualify, please contact my office or visit www.dhs.pa.gov/services/assistance/pages/LIHEAP.aspx.



2019-2020

INCOME GUIDELINES

for homeowners and renters

Apply Online
Today

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