

Some of what my office accomplished in 2019

Working for you!



7,196

Constituent
issues handled



**Property Tax/
Rent Rebates**
Nearly 700 applications completed

Over \$350,000 awarded
to constituents

1700+

Port Authority
Senior Connect Card
applications processed



450+

Rep. Deasy-hosted
outreach events



\$134,900.56

Unclaimed Property
Office-completed
claims returned to
recipients

DEASY UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, March 6

10 a.m. – noon
Deasy Satellite Hours

Beechview Healthy Active Living Center

Open to the general public if you need help with any state-related matter. Satellite hours the 1st Friday of every month!

Wednesday, March 11

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Job Readiness Workshop
Deasy's District Office

If you cannot attend March 11, remember
Job Readiness is the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Friday, March 20

10 a.m. – noon
Veterans Outreach Clinic with US Rep. Doyle's office
Deasy's District Office

If you cannot attend March 20, remember Veterans
Outreach is the 3rd Friday of each month.

Election reform: Mail-in voting, more time to register

Legislation signed into law by Governor Wolf in October makes changes to our elections, which will go into effect for the upcoming April primary.

You now have more time to register and
more ways to vote.

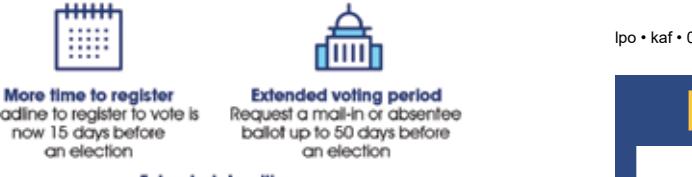
Visit www.votespa.com for more information.



No-excuse mail-in voting
New option to vote by mail
Without providing an excuse

Permanent mail-in ballot list
Receive applications for
mail-in or absentee ballots
for all elections

More accessible elections



Ipo • kaf • 0220

FUNDING FOR DISTRICT ... Continued

West End/City of Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Musical Theater - With my support, Pittsburgh Musical Theater received \$1 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funding. PMT will utilize the funds to renovate the theater's South Main Street property. The project will have four phases, which include constructing a new entrance and theater lobby; a backstage area and shop space on the first floor; interior renovations to all 10 studios/classrooms; new landscaping and lighting; and more.



Former Stevens Elementary School - The City of Pittsburgh was awarded \$500,000 in RACP funding to be used for the ongoing redevelopment of the former Stevens Elementary School. The facility will now be the Special Deployment Headquarters, which will establish valuable community policing elements in Pittsburgh's West End. Most of the RACP funding will be used for construction, elevator installation, lighting and technological infrastructure.

Station Square Access Improvements - Forest City Station Square Associates LP was awarded \$1.1 million through the Commonwealth Finance Authority to improve pedestrian access in Pittsburgh's iconic Station Square, a 52-acre mixed use riverfront property. Improvements include the installation of a new staircase accessing the Smithfield Street Bridge; a storm-water management system; a new electrical service housed in underground vaults; LED lighting; and new pavement and sidewalks along West Carson Street, Three Rivers Heritage Trail and West Station Square Drive.

West End Trolley Trail - State funds were awarded to The City of Pittsburgh through the Gaming and Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$100,000, which will go

McKees Rocks

Funds were secured in the amount of \$1.275 million to extend Intermodal Way, which was constructed to provide shared access to both CSX Intermodal Terminal and the Rocks Intermodal Park. The extension will divert truck traffic from the terminal around the central business district and provide access to the southeastern portion of Rocks Intermodal Park to accommodate future development. The project will also construct a trail that runs along Intermodal Way from Angelina Avenue to West Carson Street.

Funds were also secured in the amount of \$1.9 million to make ADA-compliant sidewalks and crosswalks. Additionally, there will be improvements to traffic signals and new streetlights beginning at the intersection of Chartiers Avenue, Linden Avenue and Furnace Street Extension, and extending northwest along the first block of Chartiers Avenue. Funds also will allow for improvements to bus lanes and to secure bike racks.

Grants for Craft Brewing

As Democratic chairman of the House Liquor Control Committee, I was happy to announce the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board approved funding to increase the production of Pennsylvania-made malt and brewed beverages under the PA Malt and Brewed Beverages Industry Promotion Board. The western Pennsylvania craft beer industry was the



into planning for the estimated \$600,000 West End Trolley trail project, and includes plans for a half-mile trail that will ultimately connect the West End business district with the Great Allegheny Passage, the Montour Trail and the Three Rivers Trail system.

Langley K-8 and Pittsburgh Classical Academy (PCA) - The Josh Gibson Foundation was awarded \$100,000 through the Department of Education's Education Access grants to expand its STEAM Education Initiative into Langley K-8 and Pittsburgh Classical Academy. These programs provide valuable life skills with the help of Langley Alumni volunteers. The program, Boys2Men, works with at-risk children to show them a larger world outside of their community that is full of options. PCA's STEAM program provides new opportunities for students to work and grow in a collaborative environment while developing new science-based skills with hands-on robotics.



Deasy with Sean Gibson and students.

recipient of over \$335,000 in state funding to support awareness, outreach and expansion of malt brewing in the greater Allegheny area.

Pittsburgh Brewers Guild was allotted \$75,000 to be used for the expansion of its 30-plus members' foundation and increase industry awareness and beer tourism across the Pittsburgh region by updating the Pittsburgh Brewery Guide and website and relaunching Pittsburgh Craft Beer Week. Visit Pittsburgh was awarded \$75,000, which will fund its Allegheny County Craft Brewery Tourism Campaign. The public relations and marketing campaign will seek to increase awareness of Pittsburgh's craft brewery scene in out-of-market audiences and attract new visitors to the 30-plus breweries in Allegheny County.

A grant of \$130,350 was also awarded to Black Brew Culture in the greater Pittsburgh area. The grant will be used to support participation, increase awareness, knowledge and experience of the black community in craft beer through various workshops, trainings and engagement. Lastly, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences was awarded \$56,258, which will fund its Craft Beer Value Chain Development: Hops Processing in Western Pennsylvania project.

I am pleased to announce these grants supporting the state craft beer industry. These initiatives will help keep Pennsylvania the number one producer of craft beer in the nation.

Legislative Update

Protecting Seniors

I have introduced legislation that would freeze property taxes for homeowners 65 or older and who have lived in their homes for at least five years. Under my bill, the amount owed in taxes would be frozen, regardless of whether the property is assessed at a higher value or if the millage rate is increased. I often hear from seniors about the struggles they face in paying property taxes on a fixed income, especially when they have rising out-of-pocket

medical and prescription medication costs. This legislation would be the first step in providing much-needed relief. It is my hope that this legislation will be the beginning toward the elimination of property taxes for seniors.

Helping Job Seekers

I voted in support of HB 396, which would require each local Workforce Development Board to include at least one administrator of a Career & Technical Center in its service area on its board. This effort would ensure that

local communication with WDBs is consistent across the commonwealth to improve delivery of their technical programs.

Technical

programs are vital entities to help job seekers establish new and marketable skills. HB 396 passed the House of Representatives unanimously and is awaiting action in the Senate.

Helping Students

I co-sponsored Act 76 of 2019, which was signed into law in October. This law has a few key provisions. It expands an established database that allows students and potential students to plan where credit for courses, programs, certificates, and diplomas can transfer among public schools and institutions of higher education. I have heard from many students that

they spend thousands of dollars on courses, course-related materials, and programs only to realize that they do not transfer to other institutions.

The law now requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Industry, to develop standard informational materials on a summary of regional workforce needs; career cluster occupations; publicly identified priority occupations; training opportunities; and future earning potential. The materials must be reviewed and updated annually, and each school entity must ensure that

students have access to these materials during the school year and at any scheduled educational or career fair. Act 76 establishes the Schools-to-Work Program in the Department of Labor & Industry. The program will award grants, on a competitive basis, to support the establishment or

enhancement of workforce development partnerships between schools, employers, organizations or associations to create employment and training pathways. The purpose of these partnerships is to increase workplace learning opportunities for students. This will create a pipeline of students with the necessary job qualifications and certifications to fill current and/or anticipated needs for employers.

Providing Second Chance Employment Opportunities for Ex-Offenders

Every day, ex-offenders across the U.S. struggle to find jobs due to their criminal record. This is evident by the 27 percent of those formerly incarcerated who are unemployed, which is five

times greater than the unemployment rate of the U.S. population. Unemployment also increases the risk of reoffending, which can result in reincarceration, or forces ex-offenders into the state welfare system, leading to large-scale costs for state government.

To avoid these outcomes and give people a needed jumpstart, I co-sponsored legislation to create the Pennsylvania Second Chance Jobs Act. The act would create a publicly accessible, online job postings website where employers who are willing to hire ex-offenders can submit job postings. The Department of Labor and Industry has indicated that federal funding would be enough to cover the costs of Pennsylvania Second Chance Jobs. Best of all, this website would be free for employers and applicants.

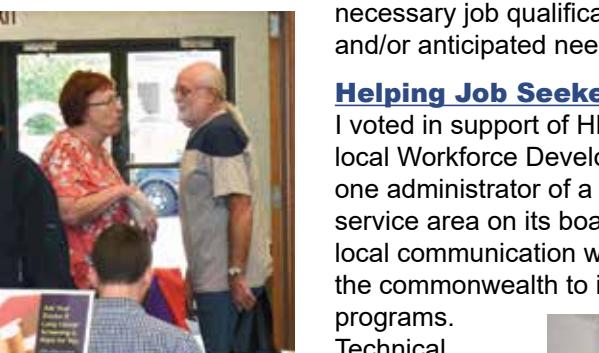
We need to continue to fight against stigmas that treat people with criminal backgrounds as second-class citizens. The best way to do this is by creating more opportunities to help these Pennsylvanians successfully reintegrate into the workforce and become productive members of their communities.

Helping Families

I voted in support of Act 13 of 2019, which eliminates the inheritance tax rate for transfers of property to or for the use of a child 21 or younger from a natural parent, adoptive parent or stepparent. The inheritance tax law taxes 4.5% on property to be transferred from the parent to a minor. This new law changed that tax rate to 0% to ensure that minor children who inherit property when a natural, adoptive or stepparent passes away will not be subject to the inheritance tax.

Helping First Responders

– Through a bipartisan effort to help struggling volunteer fire and EMS companies, the legislature debated



Deasy hosts events for seniors on state programs/services.



Deasy and other members toured Parkway West Career and Technology Center.

Deasy hosts Job Fair with Scott Albert.



and passed numerous bills to help solve the critical volunteer shortage while rewarding those who answer the call and help residents in their time of need.

Paid Family Leave Program to Help Employees

I am a co-sponsor of HB1739, which would establish "The Family Care Act," a statewide Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. This important legislation would help hardworking Pennsylvanians so they can care for themselves and their families when serious illness strikes or when a parent becomes seriously ill, by providing employees the ability to invest small deductions from their weekly earnings into a state-managed fund. Then when they need to take time off, they can retain their job and remain economically stable by tapping into the fund. As the American workforce changes, so too must work policies evolve to serve a growing and diverse population. Employers should not have to choose between the health of their business and loyalty to their employees. And no employee should ever have to choose between taking care of a sick parent or child or a job. In Pennsylvania, families should come first.

Protecting Homeowners

I have co-sponsored HB 468, which would establish the Landslide Insurance and Assistance Program within the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. My district has seen its share of landslides in recent years. Over the last several years, landslide and slope movements have caused a vast amount of damage to homes and roadways in southwestern Pennsylvania, an estimated \$4 million a year. Unfortunately, the damage often caused is not covered by existing insurance policies. This legislation would create programs for residents and businesses to buy into landslide coverage.

Protecting our Houses of Worship

Act 83 of 2019, which I wholeheartedly supported, established a \$5 million Nonprofit Security Grant Fund for safety and security improvements to facilities used by faith-based nonprofits. Our region knows all too well how hatred and extremist violence can cause devastation to a community and to families when our places of worship are targeted.

Protecting your Insurance Plans

Prior to the passage of the federal Affordable Care Act, 4.5 million Pennsylvanians had insurance plans that had an annual or lifetime limit. This meant that claims were being denied after a certain threshold was reached. The ACA prohibited an annual or lifetime limit on insurance plans. However, this provision has been challenged and if overturned by federal courts, millions of Pennsylvanians will again be exposed to limits that could result in enormous out-of-pocket expenses. To protect Pennsylvania families, I am co-sponsoring legislation that would prohibit insurance policies within the Commonwealth from imposing either annual or lifetime limits.

Deasy at Crafton VFD Annual Dinner

