

TATE REPRESENTATA

195th Legislative District

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RepDonnaBullock

FEBRUARY 2024

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

The year 2023 was full of historic firsts for our commonwealth. Speaker Joanna McClinton became the first woman speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Lt. Gov. Austin Davis became the first Black lieutenant governor and Mayor Cherelle Parker became the first woman mayor of Philadelphia.

Democrats also gained a majority in the PA House for the first time in more than a decade, and we got right into action moving legislation that will make our state a safer, more equitable and better place to work and live.

With the majority in our grasp, several of my bills passed the House, and one became law. We also passed a balanced budget that was a win for children and working families. We made historic investments in education. We increased funding for mental health services by 2.2%, expanded the

honor of serving as Speaker Pro **Tempore** twice in 2023. In this role. I presided over the House in the Speaker's absence, navigating legislative rules and managing debate in the House chamber.

I had the

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program for low-income seniors and more than tripled the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for working families.

I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move legislation and resources that improve the quality of life for all Pennsylvanians to the governor's desk.

In this newsletter, you will find information on what the PA House has been up to for the past year, goings on in our community and state services available to you. I look forward to seeing you around the district in the coming months.

Sincerely,

State Representative Donna Bullock



THE YEAR



I was sworn into serve my 5th term as your State Representative.



The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus endorsed the State of Black PA Report.



I was appointed Majority Chair of both the Children & Youth and Ethics committees. Under my leadership, the committee hosted four informational hearings in 2023 and approved 15 pieces of legislation, five of which were later passed by the House.



I spoke at "Investing in Tomorrow: A Symposium on Early Childhood Learning" to encourage the business sector to invest in childcare and early learning programs.



The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus celebrated 50 years with leaders from across the state at its annual K. Leroy Irvis Day of Action and James Roebuck Scholarship Ceremony.



The Girard Avenue Street Festival returned and welcomed neighbors back to the avenue to enjoy music, food and community.



Department of Agriculture Secretary Redding visited Glenwood Green Acres.



The budget and related bills passed the PA House with historic investments in the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit and public education.



Following a tragic incident in our neighborhood, I partnered with the District Attorney's Office, Philadelphia Sheriff's Office and community organizations to distribute gun locks in our community.



I hosted my annual Black business roundtable and corridor tour to highlight entrepreneurs and provide small business resources.



My annual Pedal for Peace Community Bike Ride welcomed the District Attorney's Office, Philadelphia Police, Temple University Police and the community for a ride about historic preservation and community safety.



My term as chair of the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus came to an end. I had the privilege of serving as chair since 2021, and vice chair since 2017.



I held a joint informational meeting and rally to raise awareness of children and youth homelessness in Pennsylvania. Members of the Children & Youth and Education committees joined together for a day of raising awareness and advocating for the passage of various bills focused on supporting children and ending youth homelessness.



Governor Josh Shapiro visited MANNA, an organization in the 195th Legislative District that prepares medically tailored meals to improve the health of people with serious illnesses.



State Rep. Tina Davis and I hosted a rally in support of our legislation that would put an end to the use of solitary confinement in the commonwealth.

IN PHOTOS

STATE PROGRAMS

2023-2024 Income Guidelines Household Maximum Need **Energy** \$21,870 1 **Assistance?** 2 \$29,580 2023-2024 3 \$37,290 LIHEAP 4 \$45,000 **Applications** 5 \$52,710 are Now 6 \$60,420 7 Open! \$68,130 8 \$75,840 9 \$83,550 10 \$91,260 Each additional person \$7,710

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is accepting applications for the winter season.

LIHEAP helps families with low incomes pay their utility bills with a cash grant paid directly to the energy provider. My office can assist you in filing the application. Please contact my office at (215) 684-3738 to schedule an appointment.



Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion

MORE people eligible, MORE money back!

Homeowner Income	Rebate	Renter Income	Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000	Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770	Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460	Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$35K	\$380	Up to \$45K	\$380
Up to \$45K	\$380	Constitution of the Consti	

The state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, which benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older; widows and widowers 50 or older; and people with disabilities 18 or older, got even better in 2024.

As part of last year's budget, we increased the income limit to \$45,000 for both renters and homeowners, which means almost 175,000 more Pennsylvanians now qualify for a property tax or rent rebate. For more information and assistance with an application, please contact my office at (215) 684-3738 to schedule an appointment.

I FOUGHT FOR AND SECURED HISTORIC INVESTMENTS FOR PA'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



\$46.5 million increase in funding for universal free breakfast



\$567 million increase in Basic Education Funding



\$175 million for school environmental repairs



\$10 million to provide PA's student teachers with stipends



\$40 million in gun violence prevention



\$100 million for school-based mental health counselors & resources



\$50 million increase in special education funding



Increase in Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit



STATE REP. DONNA BULLOCK

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SAVE THE DATES!

SPRING SHREDDING EVENTSATURDAY, APRIL 27

GIRARD AVENUE STREET
FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, MAY 18

MY DISTRICT OFFICE IS HERE FOR YOU!

We can assist with services such as:

- Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Program
- SEPTA Senior Key Cards
- Unemployment compensation and assistance programs
- PA Prescription drug assistance programs
- Birth, death, & marriage certificates
- PHEAA & FAFSA
- PA529 savings program
- & more!



My staff and I worked on the building blocks of our team to better serve our community.

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