



THE DALEY NEWS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Mary Jo Daley

FALL 2024

148TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Dear Neighbor,

It was wonderful to see so many Pennsylvanians at the polls this Election Day as voters across the country carried out their civic duty. I'm also grateful to our county election officials, poll workers and countless volunteers in every precinct who ensured a smooth electoral process. Once again, the commonwealth held a free, fair, and secure election.

Most of all, I'm proud to continue representing you for two more years in the Pennsylvania House. Your trust means everything to me.

For the past two years in our new majority, House Democrats worked hard on the issues that people care about, including cutting costs for working families, funding public education, expanding property tax and rent relief, lowering prescription costs, strengthening our workforce and economy, and making government work better for you.

I'm also pleased to report that our caucus will return to a one-seat majority for the 2025/26 session, which is a testament to our policy goals and a credit to the working relationships established by House Democrats and Governor Josh Shapiro. I'm grateful for this opportunity and now that the election is over, I turn again to my responsibilities as your state representative to work with my colleagues to make Pennsylvania the very best it can be.

Mary Jo Daley

Pennie Open Enrollment runs to Jan. 15

Pennie's Open Enrollment Period for the 2025 coverage year will run until Jan. 15.

During this period, individuals and families can enroll in health insurance plans, make changes to their existing coverage, or renew their current plans. It is a critical time to ensure you have the necessary health coverage for the upcoming year.

Pennie can connect you to local, certified experts that can walk you through every step of the way. Find assistance by visiting the connect page at www.pennie.com.

For more information on Pennie, visit pennie.com or call Pennie Customer Service at 1 (844) 844-8040.



Pennie's Open Enrollment Period

Enroll now until
January 15, 2025!



Multiple State Grants Awarded for Critical Projects

I am proud to announce the award of several state grants for local projects that will benefit residents of the 148th Legislative District.

Lower Merion School District, Bala Cynwyd Middle School Roof Replacement Project, \$500,000

This project will replace the Bala Cynwyd Middle School's 83,979 square foot roof with improvements including the installation of cold asphalt, a TPA heat welded cap sheet, hips and ridges, and metal coping. Enhancements necessary for the roof's replacement will also include masonry repairs and drainage improvements.

Whitemarsh Township, Whitemarsh Township Stormwater Rehabilitation Project, \$929,294

Whitemarsh Township will restore roughly 4,000 linear feet of storm sewer pipe using CIPP lining. The project will take place along Oakwyn Road, Cedar Drive, Pine Ridge Drive, Wildflower Drive and Laurel Drive.

AIM Institute for Learning and Research Redevelopment Expansion, awarded to AIM Academy, \$250,000

The award will fund a two-story addition in the parking lot behind the lower/upper school wing that will include new classroom spaces, office spaces and collaboration spaces. To reduce the impervious coverage on the campus, the parking lot will be replaced by a green courtyard between the existing building and the new addition.

One Belmont Parking Garage, awarded to KGSB Investor LLC, \$1 million

To provide public parking for the high-density, mixed-use development and to construct a six-level precast parking garage with 686 parking spaces and 10 car charging stations.

Ardmore Community Center and PALM Senior Center Replacement Renovation Phase II, awarded to Lower Merion Township Department of Parks and Recreation, \$1 million

Ardmore Avenue Community Center will be a newly constructed, environmentally sensitive building with more square footage to include flexible programming space, a full-size gymnasium and community use space. The PALM Senior Center will have environmentally sensitive renovations and additions to increase the square footage and provide more open, welcoming and flexible program spaces.

The following organizations received awards from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Nonprofit Security Grant Fund Program:

- **ECE Center at Congregation Or Ami, \$50,000**
- **Gan Israel Chabad Inc., \$24,999**
- **I.S. Kosloff Torah Academy High School for Girls, \$25,000**
- **Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia, \$75,000**
- **Jewish Relief Agency, \$25,000**
- **Lower Merion Synagogue, \$150,000**
- **Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El, \$25,000**
- **The Mesivta High School of Greater Philadelphia, \$25,000**

More information about grant awards in the district is available on my website, www.PaHouse.com/Daley.



Boosting Tourism Funding in PA

As chair of the Pennsylvania House Tourism, Economic, and Recreational Development Committee, I am pleased to announce a \$15 million state budget increase to attract more tourists to the commonwealth's many great restaurants, hotels, bed and breakfasts, and resorts.

Gov. Josh Shapiro has been promoting Pennsylvania as the "Great American Getaway," and the budget this year earmarked \$19 million for tourism marketing to boost Pennsylvania's economy, attract more visitors and support good-paying jobs.

Pennsylvania is a four-seasons destination, with each of our great state's regions offering educational, historical and recreational opportunities to travelers. Providing more resources to the state's Tourism Office helps bring more attention to all that Pennsylvania has to offer and generates even more revenue for our state.

This increased investment puts Pennsylvania on par with its neighboring states for funding. Since 2017, statewide tourism promotion funding had been stagnant at about \$4 million per year. The \$15 million increase brings the total in this year's budget to over \$19 million.

PENNSYLVANIA
THE GREAT AMERICAN GETAWAY



Supporting Workers

I toured the Eastern Atlantic States Carpenters Technical Center in Philadelphia this September. I had the opportunity to learn about the amazing programs the training facility offers and how these programs help the next generation of skilled workers.

New Wildlife Corridor Report Calls for More Detailed Reporting

I am pleased to announce that the report, The Current Status of Conservation Connectivity in Pennsylvania, is available at <https://lbfc.legis.state.pa.us/Resources/Documents/Reports/780.pdf>.

The report was released this year, after being completed by the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC), as directed by my House Resolution 87.

Conservation corridors, also known as wildlife corridors, are paths that join two or more areas of wildlife habitat, allowing for safe passage from one area to another, typically via over- and underpasses on roads but also through waterways and wetlands.

The purpose of the study was to determine how best to preserve and reconnect these habitats, reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions, and maintain and elevate Pennsylvania as one of the nation's top destinations for outdoor recreation.

The report notes that Pennsylvania led the country in animal-collision insurance claims in fiscal year 2023-24.

Also, according to the report:

- Risk of deer-vehicle collisions increase during October and November. The time of day, including dawn, dusk and nighttime hours, also

increases the risk of collisions with wildlife.

- Collision data is a good tool to identify hotspot areas that may benefit from wildlife crossings or other conservation connectivity tools.
- In Pennsylvania, wildlife-vehicle collision data is limited to crashes reported to PennDOT, which significantly undercounts collisions occurring in the commonwealth. The report found that crash data reported to PennDOT only accounted for about 3 percent of insurance claim estimates.



The LBFC recommended the following for legislative consideration:

- The General Assembly should consider requiring auto insurance carriers to track and provide state transportation agencies with annual data identifying wildlife-vehicle collision locations in Pennsylvania to identify hotspots.
- If deemed a public policy priority, the General Assembly should consider funding to develop new and preserve existing, conservation corridors based on the collected data.

What To Do if You've had a Deer-Vehicle Collision

With Daylight Saving Time ending and deer becoming more active in dimmer hours, drivers should watch for deer more closely.

A driver who hits a deer with a vehicle is not required to report the accident to the Game Commission. If the deer dies, only Pennsylvania residents may claim the carcass. To do so, you can call the Game Commission at 1-833-PGC-HUNT or 1-833-PGC-WILD and an agency dispatcher will collect the information needed to provide a free permit number, which the caller should write down. A resident must call within 24 hours of taking possession of the deer.

If a deer is struck by a vehicle but not killed, drivers are urged to maintain their distance because some deer might recover and move on. However, if a deer does not move on, or poses a public safety risk, drivers are encouraged to report the incident to the Game Commission or another law-enforcement agency. If the deer must be put down, the Game Commission will direct the proper person to do so.

To report a dead deer for removal from state roads, motorists can call the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation at 1-800-FIX-ROAD. To report a dead deer for removal from county and local roads, motorists can call The Game Commission at 1-833-PGC-WILD.

House passes Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission bill

I am happy to report that Pennsylvania House Bill 2132, which seeks to establish a Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission, has been signed into law by Gov. Josh Shapiro.

Rep. Tim O'Neal and I sponsored the bill to advance bilateral trade and mutual investment between Pennsylvania and Ireland, as well as to initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest. The bill will also promote business and academic exchanges, encouraging mutual economic support.

Pennsylvania has a rich history of innovation, industriousness and cultural diversity. By establishing a trade commission specifically focused on Ireland, we can tap into the unique opportunities that this partnership presents. Ireland, known for its robust economy and advanced technology sector, offers a gateway for Pennsylvania businesses to expand their reach and increase Pennsylvania's competitiveness on the global stage.

Focusing on Black Maternal Health, and the Health of Women Everywhere

As a woman, lawmaker and co-chair of the Women's Health Caucus, I'm happy to share wonderful news from our sister caucus, the Black Maternal Health Caucus. This fall, the governor signed into law H.B. 1608, which would extend Medicaid coverage to doula services while also creating a Doula Advisory Board.

Doulas are not only shown to improve maternal and infant health, but many are specifically trained in cultural competence to address the intersectional experience that is pregnancy and motherhood. Research shows that access to doula services before, during and after pregnancy can bridge pre-natal care inequities, providing tailored care for women who so desperately need a support system.



Calling all Artists, Craftspeople: PA Wants your Work

The State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation invite artists and crafts people to submit applications to exhibit their work in Art of the State 2025. Now in its 58th year, this prestigious juried exhibition boasts a tradition of presenting highly creative art by Pennsylvanians, chosen by a distinguished panel of jurors.

Art of the State 2025's call for entry is open to Pennsylvania residents who are at least 18 years of age. Artists may submit work in one or more of five categories: painting, work on paper, sculpture, craft and photography/digital media. Entries to Art of the State 2025 must be submitted online.

Additional information and the link to enter are available at www.statemuseumpa.org/callforentry. The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 17 at 11:59 p.m.

Legislation Introduced to Install Parking-Protected Lanes for Bikers

This session, I strongly supported legislation that would give local authorities the option to install parking-protected bicycle lanes between the curb and parking lanes on roadways.

I sponsored House Bill 1283 – which is also referred to as Susan's and Emily's Law – after two women whose lives were taken too early due to bike-car collisions.

Specifically, the legislation would change the state motor vehicle code to allow vehicles to park beyond 12 inches from a curb and create space for a bike lane or pedestrian plaza in between parking spaces and the sidewalk.

Supported by the Bicycle Coalition, Bike Pittsburgh and other organizations around the Commonwealth, this legislation would save lives.

As cities grow and populations increase, the need for comprehensive transportation systems that accommodate all modes of travel has become more pressing. Addressing the needs of drivers, walkers and cyclists not only reduces congestion but also enhances the quality of life for all residents.

I look forward to working with the Senate to see this legislation pass in both chambers and be signed into law.



Focusing on student mental health

I'm happy to announce that a bill I sponsored to require high school coaches to receive training on student mental health passed the House this year. I hope it will be considered by the Senate next session.

My bill would help ensure that students, parents and guardians, athletic coaches and extracurricular advisers are all aware of the mental health services within a school and local community. The bill would also require athletic coaches to receive mental health awareness training similar to the training required of other school personnel.

A recent study surveying more than 10,000 coaches found that only 18% of youth coaches feel highly confident in their ability to link athletes to mental health resources, and 67% want more training and information on the subject.

Specifically, the bill would:

- Direct the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to revise standards for health, safety and physical education to address student mental health awareness.
- Task the PDE and the Pennsylvania Department of Health with identifying model curriculum on mental health awareness.
- Require schools to notify students and their parents, athletic staff and extracurricular advisers of available mental health services twice each school year.
- Require PIAA to include student mental health awareness in its training starting in 2025-26.
- Direct the school entity's student assistance program to provide information on mental health services to a student's parent when the student's participation in a school-sponsored athletic or extracurricular activity is interrupted.

We Process Handicap Placards and Septa Senior Cards at Our Offices

If you need a disabled parking placard, temporary or permanent, you can go through our office after your doctor signs the application. The turnaround time when we submit the application is substantially shorter than if you go through AAA or directly to PennDOT yourself.

We can also process SEPTA Senior Key Cards at our office.

Please contact my office if you need assistance applying for a disabled parking placard or SEPTA Senior Key Card. We also process card applications in the Whitemarsh Township Building on the third Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon.

NOTE: our office processes the applications, and SEPTA mails the cards to constituents within four to six weeks.



MAIN OFFICE

312 Old Lancaster Road
Merion Station, PA 19066-1526
(610) 832-1679
Hours of Operation - Open Monday through Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP BUILDING

616 Germantown Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
(610) 832-1679
Hours of Operation - Open 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
This office is open the third Wednesday of the month.



Rep. Mary Jo Daley

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lpo.ks.1124

Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events that you won't want to miss!

Legal Aid Expungement Clinic is Dec. 12

I will be co-hosting a Legal Aid Expungement Clinic on Thursday, Dec. 12 with state Sen. Amanda Cappelletti's office.

Join us from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Narberth Borough Hall's multipurpose room at 100 Conway Ave., 2nd Floor, Narberth.

Please email RepMaryJoDaley@pahouse.net to let us know if you will make it.

DECEMBER'S MEET YOUR REP

If there's something on your mind, my "Meet the Rep" events are a good time to sit down together and talk!

Come visit my next one, on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. in the American Legion Room at the Narberth Community Building, 80 Windsor Ave., Narberth, PA 19072.

The room is in the same building as the Narberth Library.

RSVP is required. Please email RepMaryJoDaley@pahouse.net or call (610) 832-1679 to RSVP.