



Frank Burns

State Representative

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**CRIMINALS
BEWARE**

Burns stands up for police, supports public safety

Everyone in Harrisburg knows that Rep. Burns has a sterling track record when it comes to backing law enforcement and ensuring the rights of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves.

The folks back home know it, too, as Rep. Burns receives overwhelmingly positive feedback and support for his legislative positions:

- ✓ Rep. Burns consistently rejected calls to defund the police.
- ✓ Rep. Burns hosts “Concealed Carry” seminars in his district, so citizens can learn about their legal rights and obligations as gun owners.
- ✓ Rep. Burns founded the Blue Lives Matter Caucus – and introduced a bill to make assaulting a law enforcement officer a hate crime.
- ✓ Rep. Burns has secured millions of dollars in state grants to make our schools and streets safer, including money to hire more security officers.

“NEVER defund the police!”

**“Chairman of
Second Amendment Caucus”**

**“Make assaulting law
enforcement a hate crime”**

**“Founder of
Blue Lives Matter Caucus”**



Rep. Burns is the **only elected official** who has called for the city to use part of its \$30.7 million American Rescue Plan grant to hire more police.

Burns supports ‘hero pay’ retention, sign-on bonuses for police officers

Votes in favor of \$135 million grant program



“
When I hear others say ‘Defund the police,’ my response is, ‘Here’s another \$135 million for them.’

”
– Rep. Burns

To help local police departments keep and recruit officers, Rep. Burns helped make sure this year’s state budget included \$135 million that can be used to offer bonuses to current and future members of law enforcement.

Rep. Burns said this “hero pay” available through the new Local Law Enforcement Support Grant Program is one way to keep communities safe by rewarding those willing to take on an increasingly tough job.

As founder and chairman of the legislature’s Blue Lives Matter Caucus, Rep. Burns has for years strongly supported law enforcement – even authorizing legislation to make assault on them a hate crime. He encourages any municipality interested in applying for the bonus program to contact his office for help.

Burns votes to investigate Philadelphia district attorney as city’s gun violence surges

Along with three colleagues from Philadelphia, Rep. Burns was one of four House Democrats to vote in favor of investigating that city’s district attorney for dereliction of duty, for a soft-on-crime prosecutorial approach as its homicides by gun skyrocket.

Rep. Burns believes the law is the law – and that progressive Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner should enforce what’s on the books, not unilaterally decide policy to suit his personal political and societal preferences.

With Philadelphia battling a gun violence epidemic – 572 homicides last year, and 300 so far this year – Rep. Burns thinks it appropriate for a House committee to take a closer look at whether Krasner’s policies are curbing or fueling crime rates in the commonwealth’s biggest city, and whether it warrants impeachment.

Since taking office, Krasner has requested cash bail for charged criminals less often, diverted many more gun cases to Accelerated Rehabilitation Disposition (ARD), and softened prosecution of drug, prostitution and retail theft crimes.

“
It’s time to put this progressive approach to criminal prosecution under the microscope, to see if it’s helping or harming public safety.”
– Rep. Burns

Burns proposes 'Blue Alert' to help apprehend dangerous suspects

Rep. Burns knows that when a law enforcement officer is killed, seriously injured, or missing while in the line of duty, there is often an imminent threat to public safety.

That's why Rep. Burns – who is founder and co-chairman of the legislature's Blue Lives Matter Caucus – has authored the Blue Alert Act. Patterned after the highly successful Amber Alert System, Rep. Burns wants to alert the public about dangerous criminal suspects and seek their help in locating and apprehending them.

Under Rep. Burns' bill, the Pennsylvania State Police would operate the system, using the same technology employed by 37 states in operating their Amber Alert systems.



Burns elevated to leader of Second Amendment Caucus

*“I have always defended your 2nd Amendment Rights.”
– Rep. Burns*

As a longtime supporter of the right to bear arms, it comes as no surprise that Rep. Burns is now Democratic chairman of the PA Legislature's Second Amendment Caucus.

Rep. Burns took over this important leadership position in a bipartisan group to ensure that the rights of law-abiding gun owners are not eroded.

Such things as the \$10-a-year gun registration fee proposed in Harrisburg cause Rep. Burns to shake his head in frustration, because he knows criminals would never abide by such a law.

Rep. Burns also hosts “Concealed Carry Seminars” throughout his legislative district, attracting hundreds of residents who want to learn more about their gun rights, and firearm rules and regulations, such as those pictured below:



Jackson Township



Lower Yoder Township



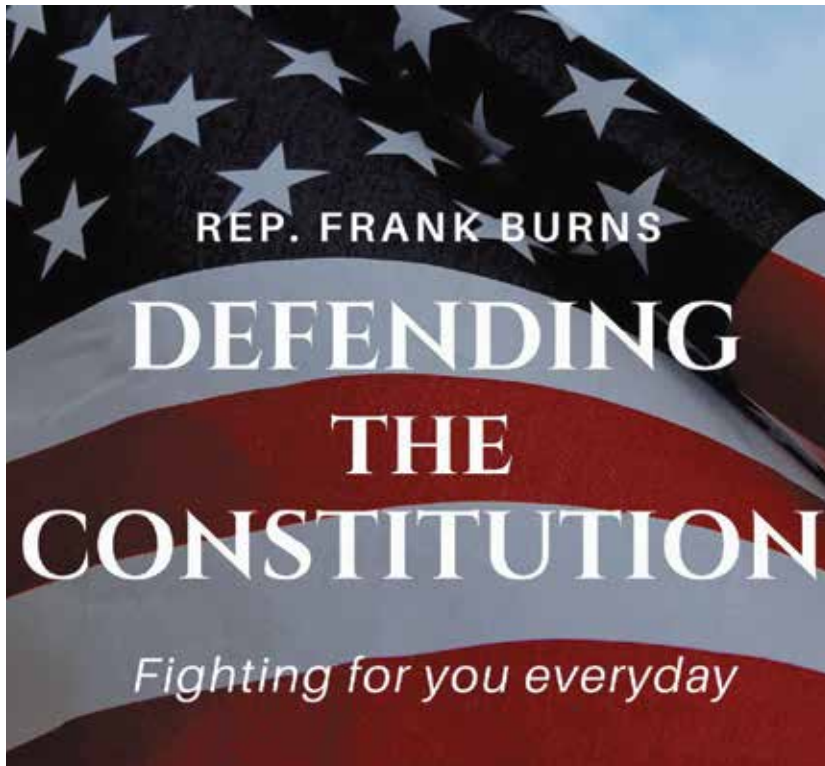
BURNS LEADS ON WELFARE REFORM, ENDING FRAUD

Because he believes only the truly needy deserve public assistance, Rep. Burns has a solid track record of backing welfare reform and accountability measures, even if it means crossing party lines.

REP. BURNS HAS ROBUSTLY AND WITHOUT APOLOGY PROPOSED OR SUPPORTED:

- ➔ Work requirements for able-bodied medical assistance recipients.
- ➔ Drug testing for welfare recipients.
- ➔ Proof of citizenship and proper identification in order to get benefits.
- ➔ Preventing cash withdrawals from ATM machines using electronic benefits cards.
- ➔ Prohibiting booze purchases or sending money to inmates using benefits cards.
- ➔ Increasing the penalties for those who commit welfare fraud.
- ➔ Making sure anyone getting benefits in PA is cut off from double-dipping in other states.
- ➔ Moving able-bodied public assistance recipients to full-time jobs within a year.

With jobs so plentiful in the current economy that employers are literally begging for workers, Rep. Burns sees even more reason to keep a sharp eye out for sensible initiatives to pare welfare rolls and costs.



"You get it done Frank. You work in a collaborative manner with your constituents throughout your area and together you accomplish their goals along with showing them you are a man of action not words.

Well done once again. You do represent the citizenry of your area - very well!!"

- Jim Kilcoyne, Facebook



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Burns only House Democrat to support voter ID

Showing the independent streak for which he is widely known, Rep. Burns broke party ranks as the only House Democrat to vote in favor of a voter ID requirement.

Rep. Burns continued defying political party stereotypes for two reasons: he believes voter ID is the best way to ensure election integrity and allay fears of fraud, and he voted to support something more than 70 percent of Pennsylvanians – and the vast majority of his constituents – wanted.

Rep. Burns also defied party labels by voting in favor of a 2020 election audit, in a bipartisan action to restore trust and to improve the system in future elections.



“We need to make sure that people who vote are who they say they are.”
– Rep. Burns



Burns ALWAYS refuses to accept paycheck until budget gets done

You don't get paid if you don't do your job – and Rep. Burns thinks legislators should be held to the same standard.

That's why during **ALL** state budget delays, Rep. Burns has refused to accept his paycheck. He was one of nine legislators to refuse their pay in 2015 – and he was one of 12 to take that stand this year.

Rep. Burns might be out of step with most lawmakers in the Capitol, but he believes his stance of putting personal principles over politics puts him in step with you.

“I may be in the minority in thinking this way, but I can't, in good conscience, accept a payday from taxpayers when we haven't met our constitutional obligation to pass a budget.”
– Rep. Burns
Pennlive, July 7, 2022.

Burns champions anti-bullying legislation to protect students

During his many yearly visits to classrooms throughout his legislative district, Rep. Burns was disheartened to find out how many students were being tormented by bullying, so he came up with a solution.

Rep. Burns introduced – and has championed – legislation to hold bullies' parents accountable for their misbehaving children's actions. **Parents could face fines of up to \$750 and/or community service for repeated acts of bullying.**

Rep. Burns also wants to require schools to more effectively track, investigate and report bullying and cyberbullying incidents. He helped bring a software-based pilot program to Cambria County to help accomplish those goals.



These sixth-graders at All Saints School are among the hundreds of students in Rep. Burns' district who have signed his anti-bullying pledge.



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Burns favors letting schools display ‘In God We Trust’ and the Bill of Rights

Rep. Burns has supported legislation to allow schools to prominently display the motto “In God We Trust” and the Bill of Rights in any of their classrooms and buildings.



Rep. Burns believes his constituents share his belief that the motto and the first 10 amendments to the Constitution reflect guiding principles on which our nation was founded.

If “In God We Trust” is acceptable for printing on U.S. currency, Rep. Burns sees no reason it shouldn’t be plainly visible in our public schools.

Burns proposed state scholarships for fire company volunteers

While helping volunteer fire departments and EMS providers obtain hundreds of thousands of dollars in state grants every year, Rep. Burns knows that dwindling membership presents an entirely different challenge for their continued operation.



To tackle that problem, Rep. Burns put forth legislation that would provide PHEAA scholarships to volunteers with fire company, ambulance and rescue squads.

Rep. Burns sees this as a way to help young people defray the cost of higher education, while allowing emergency services to attract and retain volunteers.