

State Representative | 21st Legislative District

LINDSAY POWELL

Capitol Office:

106B East Wing
P.O. Box 202021
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2021
(717) 783-9114
Fax: (717) 780-4761

District Office:

5154 Butler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
(412) 781-2750
Toll-Free: (833) 787-4139
Fax: (412) 781-2892

 /RepLindsayPowell

 @RepLPowell

 @RepPowell

 RepPowell.com



HELLO NEIGHBOR,

I'm excited to have this opportunity to address you in my first newsletter as state representative of Pennsylvania's 21st Legislative District.

At the beginning of October, I took the oath of office and assumed the responsibility of working on behalf of our neighbors throughout the Commonwealth. While new to this role, public service and community empowerment have always been at the heart of my work. I've always found government to be a way to make meaningful changes for the communities I come from and care about, always led by the belief that government can be better and do more for all of us.

As assistant chief of staff for the city of Pittsburgh, I directed legislation and policy for city departments. I oversaw the creation of the first citywide digital equity initiative, the expansion of the summer free meal program during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the implementation of a program to help small, local-owned businesses open on city main streets called "Avenues of Hope." As the director of workforce strategies for InnovatePGH, I created employment opportunities for underrepresented technologists in

Pittsburgh. As a young woman coming from a working-class family, I know what it's like to work hard and still not feel like you can make ends meet, which is what keeps me motivated to continue to fight for all of us to thrive.

I look forward to working on and passing additional legislation with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that provides safe and dignified housing for everyone, assists working families and small businesses, protects our air and water, and creates a safe and vibrant future for the next generation.

This is a tremendous privilege, and I'm eager to roll up my sleeves and get to work!

UPDATE FROM HARRISBURG



Though I've only been in office for a few months, my first bill as a state representative has officially been introduced. This legislation, **H.B. 1911**, would ensure striking workers in PA retain healthcare benefits while on the picket lines.

Workers advocating for improved conditions and compensation should not be compelled to choose between job security and the well-being of themselves and their families. I support them and their immeasurable contributions to the Commonwealth!

I'm also proud to have already cast my affirmative vote for several pieces of legislation that passed the House. These bills serve, protect, and enrich the people and communities of Pennsylvania:

H.B. 1219

A \$1 billion tax cut that would invest in the state economy, working families, and public transit.

H.B. 1025

Training educators and school officials to recognize & report hate-based intimidation.

H.B. 636

Requires sales brokers to disclose mandatory fees included in the advertised/ listed prices of goods and services.

H.B. 1786

Prohibits Commonwealth legal or law enforcement action towards citizens from other states seeking an abortion in PA.

H.B. 1772

Doubles the money available for security upgrades at PA nonprofits, including houses of worship.

Act 11A of 2023

\$603 million in funding for the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, and Lincoln University.

This is in addition to the full expansion of the Pennsylvania Child and Dependent Care Enhancement Tax Credit, \$567 million increase in basic education funding, a \$150 million increase to highway and safety Improvements, and much more.



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE & COOKIES AT MY HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

I held my first district office open house just in time for the holidays. My staff and I enjoyed meeting new faces, helping with state services, and sharing cookies from some of our favorite local bakeries: A Sweet Morsel in Shaler Township and My Sweet Lilly in the Strip District.

The event was also a great opportunity to connect with neighbors on what your legislative priorities are. As we've turned the page on a new year, I'm committed to continuing the good work that's already begun in Harrisburg and the work that still needs done. I'm here to serve you!

Thank you to everyone who attended, and I look forward to hosting more great community events like this one in the future!



DOGS IN THE DISTRICT

Our office loves dogs and all pets! As we attend events across the district, we've been taking great pictures of some of our furry friends that we want to share.

Meet Willow, our inaugural Dog in the District and my very own best furry friend! She's often in the office helping to sort mail and checking for crumbs.

Neighborhood: Lawrenceville

Likes: Helping constituents, looking for snacks, and taking naps

Dislikes: Wide-brimmed hats and loud noises that interrupt her naps

Please send us pictures of your own pet friends, so they can be featured in my weekly e-newsletter.

You can sign up for e-newsletters by visiting

www.pahouse.com/powell/emailsignup and filling out the form.

IN THE COMMUNITY



I was honored to join Governor Josh Shapiro, former County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, and others to unveil Westinghouse's plan to build the technology accelerator for its microreactor at a facility right here in Etna.

I'm proud to throw all my support behind this project that will create 40+ local jobs and invest in clean and safe energy for multiple sectors.



Our seniors are our greatest gifts, and I had a wonderful time meeting some of them in Lawrenceville. They shared their priorities and what they would like to see more of in our neighborhoods, while doing some fun crafts. My staff and I can assist with many programs and services our older adults have access to: bus pass renewals, Property Tax/Rent Rebates and issues with Medicare. Give us a call or stop by if you're ever having any trouble!



I had the opportunity to meet the amazing folks at HEARTH in October in Glenshaw during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. They provide affordable housing and support services for homeless families and survivors of domestic violence.

I'm grateful to represent this organization that works hand in hand with families on their healing journey and gives them the tools to be self-sufficient and independent.



Thank you to Megan and Robert Tunon of the Etna Community Organization and Etna Borough Manager Mary Ellen Ramage for the tour of what will be Etna's new library.

This will be an invaluable community resource for neighbors of all ages once it is completed.



I had the chance to speak to neighbors and share how my office can help with all things state government-related at the Pigtober Fest in Troy Hill.

Meeting residents and their four-legged friends puts into great perspective the people I'm honored and privileged to serve in Harrisburg and here at home.



Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

MORE people eligible, **MORE** money back!

Homeowners Income	This Year	Next Year
Up to \$8K	\$650	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$500	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$300	\$460
Up to \$35K	\$250	\$380
Up to \$45K	\$0	\$380
Renter Income	This Year	Next Year
Up to \$8K	\$650	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$500	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$0	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$0	\$380

Questions? Contact my office for help receiving your refund by calling (412) 781-2750 or emailing RepPowell@pahouse.net



EXPANDING THE PROPERTY TAX/ RENT REBATE PROGRAM

PA's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. Half of Social Security income is excluded, and spouses, personal representatives, or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in the claim year and meet all other eligibility criteria. In addition, each Pittsburgh senior household with an income under \$30,000 will have their property tax rebate increase by an additional 50 percent. A new bill signed into law this session has made the program even better in fact!

The new law raises the annual income cap to \$45,000 for homeowners and renters starting this year and is tied to cost-of-living moving forward, resulting in the number of eligible seniors rising from 400,000 to 575,000. On top of that, the maximum rebate amount jumps from \$650 to \$1,000 in 2024 and beyond. The chart to the left is a breakdown of rebate payouts, based on income, and reflects the increase in the payouts from 2023 (This Year) to 2024 (Next Year) and subsequent years.

Please visit www.revenue.pa.gov and click on "Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Program" under "Popular Topics" to apply.

RESTORING SNAP BENEFITS & PROGRAM CHANGES

Scams targeting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients have led to the electronic theft of program benefits for many of these individuals. As a result, the state Department of Human Services has developed a process for SNAP recipients, who had their benefits stolen electronically between **October 1, 2022, and September 30, 2024**, to get them reissued.

Please visit www.dhs.pa.gov/Pages/Scams and scroll down the page to the "What to do" section, where you can fill out a benefit theft claim form and learn more about the next steps in the process.

In addition, the Shapiro administration recently announced increases to SNAP benefit amounts and changes to income limits. Please visit www.dhs.pa.gov, click on "SNAP", and click "SNAP Income Limits" to view the income limit changes. You can also scroll down the SNAP page to "Maximum Benefit Amounts" to see those increases and apply to SNAP by using www.compass.state.pa.us.



STAYING WARM THIS COLD WEATHER SEASON WITH LIHEAP

With winter temperatures upon us, the 2023-2024 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is available to help qualified residents with their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants. The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$300 to \$1,000 based on household size, income, and fuel type and do not need to be repaid. The graphic to the right illustrates eligibility for the program and correlates household size with maximum annual income.

Please visit www.dhs.pa.gov and click on "LIHEAP" for more information. You can apply to the program by using www.compass.state.pa.us.

Need Energy Assistance?
2023-2024 LIHEAP Applications are Now Open!

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
1	\$21,870
2	\$29,580
3	\$37,290
4	\$45,000
5	\$52,710
6	\$60,420
7	\$68,130
8	\$75,840
9	\$83,550
10	\$91,260

Each additional person \$7,710

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

It is important to me to hear from you, the people I have the honor to represent. Please consider filling out this survey and returning it to my district office at 5154 Butler St., Pittsburgh, PA 15201.

Or, you can scan the QR code to take the survey online!



What are the most important issues to you this year?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Voting rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protecting your right to clean air and water | <input type="checkbox"/> Improving access to health care for Pennsylvanians |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making corporations pay their fair share of taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable child care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription drug costs | <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 pandemic and recession relief |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and transit | <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign finance reform |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive health care | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebuilding our roads, bridges and communities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compassionate solutions to the opioid crisis | <input type="checkbox"/> School funding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing the minimum wage | <input type="checkbox"/> Securing/protecting civil rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal justice reform | |

What other issues are important to you and your family?

Name: _____

Street address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

**I would like to be contacted regarding these issues.
Please contact me via**

- Phone Email

PLEASE CLIP AND RETURN TO REP. POWELL'S OFFICE.





State Representative
LINDSAY POWELL

5154 Butler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

WINTER 2024
UPDATE

INSIDE:

**HARRISBURG & DISTRICT 21
HAPPENINGS**

IN THE COMMUNITY

STATE SERVICES INFO

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

lpo.tb.0124

MY OFFICE STAFF IS HERE TO HELP YOU!

My staff and I are here to assist with an assortment of state services and with the issues that matter to you most.

We are available at:

- The main district office in Pittsburgh **Monday through Friday** from **9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** and **by appointment** on **Wednesday evenings**.
5154 Butler St., Pittsburgh, PA 15201.
- The office in Shaler **Thursdays** from **9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** or **any weekday by appointment**.
300 Wetzel Road, Glenshaw, PA 15116
(second floor).

Please don't hesitate to stop by, even if it's just to say hello. We're eager to see and help you!

REP. POWELL'S Office Hours

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Evening appointments available by request on Wednesdays

SHALER OFFICE HOURS

Thursdays
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Or any weekday by appointment

(412) 781-2750

District Office: 5154 Butler St. - Pittsburgh, PA 15201
Shaler Office: 300 Wetzel Road - 2nd Floor - Glenshaw, PA 15116