

State Representative | 10th Legislative District

AMEN BROWN

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THE PUBLIC SERVANT

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DEAR CONSTITUENTS OF THE 10TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT,

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for the privilege of serving as your state representative. It is an honor to work on behalf of such a vibrant and engaged community.

I'm thrilled that we were able to perform over 8,000 services for our beloved constituents, with a strong focus on our seniors – nearly 2,000 of which we helped with services for them.

I hope I had a chance to meet you at one of my hundreds of outreach events. If not, I'm looking forward to catching up at my next one.

One of my top priorities as your state representative is making sure that the organizations that uplift and empower our community have the funding they need to keep educating, feeding, housing and providing critical services to our neighbors that need help.

As we embark on the next chapter, I am committed to making our city safer, our education system stronger, and our government more accessible. Through collaborative efforts, we will implement policies aimed at ensuring the well-being of our residents, fostering an environment conducive to learning, and promoting transparency in governance.

Your support and feedback are invaluable, and I encourage you to stay involved. Together, we can build a future that reflects the aspirations and needs of our diverse community.

Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility.

I look forward to the continued journey of serving you and making positive strides for the 10th Legislative District.

Sincerely,



Earlier this year, we opened up our new office space at 4027 Market St. Make sure you stop by to say Hi and see how we can help you!



2023
LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

8,818
CONSTITUENT SERVICES

1,972
SENIORS SERVICED

898
OUTREACH AND EVENTS

REP. BROWN
ANNOUNCES

\$9.8 Million
in state funding for
the 10th district.

To easily contact us, please scan this QR Code to visit my website.



To sign up for my emails scan this QR Code.



IT'S BEEN A BUSY FEW MONTHS AND I'VE BEEN WORKING HARD FOR YOU BOTH IN HARRISBURG AND HERE AROUND HOME!

I serve on five PA House committees: Aging & Older Adult Services, Commerce, Housing and Community Development, Liquor Control, and recently I was appointed to the Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee.

I look forward to working with our state's veterans in 2024 to ensure that we are taking care of the men and women who fight tirelessly for our rights and freedoms.

My fellow House Democrats and I are fighting to uplift all Philly schools and students across Pennsylvania. Our work on the 2023-24 state budget allowed us to make historic investments in K-12 public schools, including a \$567 million increase in Basic Education Funding and a \$46.5 million increase to provide universal free breakfast for public school students.

Also, we allotted an extra \$175 million to fix school infrastructure. Too many times I have heard parents' concerns over the conditions of our public schools, so I was proud to vote yes on this funding, which will ensure our students aren't learning in unsafe and uncomfortable environments.

PA House Democrats also fought hard to give Pennsylvanians a raise in the minimum wage. Our legislation passed the House but remains blocked in the GOP controlled Senate. Scan the QR code to tell your state Senator to Raise the Wage in PA.

Balancing life between working and raising a family is demanding, especially when you have to figure out how to pay for childcare. Pennsylvania parents will see a dramatic increase in their Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit due to House Democrats fighting to ease the burden for working families.



DEMOCRATS DELIVER

WHAT WE ACHIEVED:

- ✓ **Record basic education funding increase**
 - **\$175 million** for school facility improvements
 - **\$10 million** for student-teacher stipends
 - EITC Transparency and Administrative Fee Reforms
- ✓ **Increased Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit** – move from 30% to 100% of federal credit – more than tripling the state level credit
- ✓ Increased **violence intervention by \$10 million**
- ✓ **\$7.5 million for indigent defense**

The 2023/24 Budget
Increases Funding for Schools in our Community
 Philadelphia School District
 \$1.48 Billion (6.1% ↑)

Need Energy Assistance?

2023-2024 LIHEAP Applications are

Now Open!

KEEPING PENNSYLVANIA HEALTHY AT LOWER COSTS

Pennsylvania's prescription assistance programs for older adults, PACE and PACENET, offer low-cost prescription medication to qualified residents, age 65 and older. The program works with Medicare Part D plans and other prescription drug plans such as retiree/union coverage, employer plans, Medicare Advantage (HMO, PPO) and Veterans' Benefits (VA) to lower out-of-pocket costs for medications.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is accepting applications! LIHEAP helps low-income families pay their utility bills with a cash grant paid directly to the energy provider. There are two ways to apply for LIHEAP:

Online: Apply for benefits online using COMPASS, the online tool for Pennsylvanians to apply for health and human service programs and manage benefit information.

On paper: You can download a paper application, print it, fill it out, and return it to your local county assistance office. For assistance with filing out a paper application, contact my office to schedule an appointment.

COME GET YOUR SEPTA SENIOR FARE CARD

Older adults with a valid Senior Fare Card ride free at all times on all types of SEPTA routes! If you are 65+ years old and need a new card or renewal, please reach out to our office for an appointment. Applicants need to bring a valid ID and be ready to have their picture taken.

NEW IN 2024

CHILD & DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT

	Income Under \$43,000		Earning Above \$43,000	
	Prior to Change	Expanded Tax Credit	Prior to Change	Expanded Tax Credit
Max Credit for One Eligible Dependent	\$315	\$1,050	\$180	\$600
Max Credit for Two+ Eligible Dependents	\$630	\$2,100	\$360	\$1,200



ENDING MEDICAL CO-PAYS FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

When individuals who are incarcerated are paid a starting rate of 19 cents per hour, they regularly face difficult financial decisions during incarceration. The choice they are often forced to face is whether they should spend \$5 on a copay to receive basic healthcare services or on other necessities, such as food, phone/ email costs or undergarments.

Not only does the \$5 copay pose a financial burden to those incarcerated, but it also presents a public health dilemma by discouraging sick individuals from getting needed care. While incarcerated people still receive medical care if they cannot pay the copay, their account balance goes into the negative, often requiring additional payments from family members to pay off the balance.

Ending medical co-pays for our people who are incarcerated is an essential measure to ensure equitable access to healthcare, recognizing the right to comprehensive medical services for incarcerated individuals and promoting their well-being without imposing financial barriers.

EXPANDING CLEAN SLATE LAW

Sealing records helps save lives. When a person has a criminal record, it prohibits them from accessing benefits such as education, a career and even housing.

This creates a perpetual cycle of recidivism that would be avoided if a person let out of prison wasn't labeled a criminal for the rest of their lives. It leaves people with a chance to serve their time and then be productive members of society. Someone with a misdemeanor or low-level felony shouldn't be defined by one instance.

This not only benefits those directly affected but also contributes to a more just and inclusive society. Clean Slate 3.0 was signed into law in December.

In addition to Clean Slate, I joined the fight to fund indigent defense because Pennsylvania was one of only two states that didn't provide funding for it. Now, with House Democrats in the Majority, we have allotted \$7.5 million to provide legal services to those who can't afford it. Every Pennsylvanian has the right to legal representation regardless of financial circumstances.

DIGNITY FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

Pregnancy can be an incredibly scary time for a woman, even more so for incarcerated women. These women deserve to be treated with compassion and common decency to ensure their health and the health of their child.

We should strive to make sure that our correctional officers who interact with pregnant women are trauma informed, because giving birth and the post-partum stage can be unimaginably traumatic.

They should never be shackled, or their movement restricted for not only the sake of their dignity but because it can be harmful for both the mother and child.

Sending pregnant women to solitary confinement can have serious and harmful consequences for both the expectant mother and her unborn child. It takes a serious toll on a woman's mental health, which is hard to break out of and will affect her developing fetus.

I'm proud to work with colleagues like state Rep. Morgan Cephas, a fellow Philly state representative, who advocated for this important legislation, and I will always vote yes to protect the dignity of all women.

MATERNAL MORBIDITY

Maternal morbidity is a significant public health concern. It refers to the health complications experienced by pregnant women during pregnancy and childbirth which impact the health of women.

Common examples of maternal morbidity include gestational diabetes, hypertensive disorders (such as preeclampsia), postpartum hemorrhage, infections, mental health disorders (such as postpartum depression), and complications related to Cesarean section or other medical interventions.

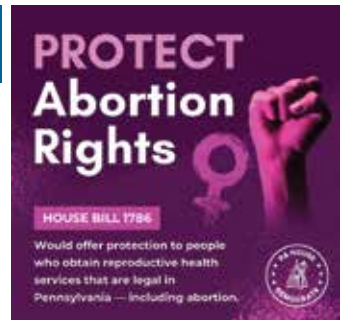
The step to addressing this growing public health crisis is to record accurate data when the event occurs. That's why I voted yes to have Maternal Morbidity added to the list of reportable events within the PA Department of Health.

PROTECTING ABORTION ACCESS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Fifty-one years ago the U.S. Supreme Court ruled women have the right to control their own bodies. Nineteen months ago, a very different U.S. Supreme Court said it was up to the states, and now abortion is illegal or restricted in 21 states – but not in Pennsylvania.

PA House Democrats voted to pass HB 1786 which would help to ensure that any person who needs an abortion can access that care in Pennsylvania safely and legally, without fear of retribution from law enforcement that they will be penalized for seeking that legal care.

It is essential to safeguard and preserve the right to choose, providing women with the autonomy to make decisions that align with their individual circumstances, health, and futures.



DENTAL SCREENINGS BY DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Regular dental check-ups for children play a vital role in preventing tooth decay, establishing good habits, and boosting confidence. Unfortunately, school districts often encounter difficulties trying to hire dentists. This legislation provides for more flexibility by allowing school districts to hire dental hygienist to ensure students have regular access to dental checkups.

COMMUNITY LEADERS SPOTLIGHT

In every neighborhood, there are unsung heroes who dedicate their time, energy, and passion to make a positive impact. I want to shine a spotlight on our valued community leaders.

From organizing events that bring us together to championing local causes, these leaders embody the spirit of unity and progress. Their dedication builds bridges throughout our great city!

If you see them make sure you say “Hi” and “Thank you!”



Vincent McDuffy;
Officer of the 18th
Police District of
Philadelphia.



Harriet Knight;
President of
University Square
Apartments Tenant
Council.



Alice Wright;
President of United
Block Captains
Association Hospital.



Lorraine Gomez: Neighborhood Advisory Committee for Mount Vernon Manor Community Development Corporation for Mantua, East Parkside and Powelton Village. Lastly, a consultant for the Promise Zone Designated – Mantua -Mt. Vernon Manor CDC as a Block Coordinator.



Dawn Wilkerson:
President of the Mill
Creek Advisory
Council Inc. founder
and treasurer of A
New Dawn Inc.



Joann Warren-
Waters; Chair of
Mt. Carmel Human
Development
Corporation.



Callalily Cousar-
President of the East
Parkside Residence
Association
(EPRA).



Betty Ferguson-
Belmont Alliance
Civic Association
Community
Development
Corporation.



Tanya Kennedy;
Founder of Mantua
Cares Association,
Founder of 39th
and Brown Street
food bank.



Rose Bryant-
Founder of
Rose Playhouse,
community leader.



Mary Wallace
Holmes Senior
Apartments Senior
Liasion.



Daniel McElhatton-
President of Logan
Square.



Nancy Winder-
Community Leader.



Pamela Andrews
West Powelton/
Saunders Park
Registered
Community
Organization.



Shah Golamkader-
President of
the Bangladesh
Community.



Dennis Boylan;
Former President of
Lagan Square.



Jesse Woodhouse -
16th District Police
of Philadelphia.



Congratulations to our **100th Mayor, Chelle Parker and new City Council President Kenyatta Johnson!** Along with their years of experience representing the people of Philadelphia, their shared journey of humble beginnings led them to become our city's top leaders and is truly a testament to how they will lead Philadelphia - with strength through adversity.

— Representative Amen Brown



Congratulations to Our New Mayor, Chelle Parker

I was thrilled to welcome Philly's first woman Mayor, Chelle Parker, to her new public office! I look forward to working with her and Council President Kenyatta Johnson to uplift our city to its full potential.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Working hard to cool folks off during the summer heat wave.



Thankful for our servicemembers fighting to keep us free!



I had a great time when community members from Logan Square came to see me work at the Capitol!



The Philly Delegation learned so much with the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center, which helps analyze crime trends to keep us safe.



We always work to connect our community with opportunity. We had a successful day at my Job Fair; over 350 people came to talk to employers! Thanks to Mount Caramel Baptist Church for hosting us.



Holiday party in Logan Square.



We work with food banks throughout the year to ensure families have access to healthy food.



Celebrating Mom Cousar at her retirement.



Working hard to help constituents with state government issues.



Gathering with our valued community leaders.



Presents for families at my Winter Wonderland Community Resource Fair.



Thanks to the 18th Police District for everything!



It was great to celebrate the holidays with the Philly Delegation and Gov. Josh Shapiro.



I work with local law enforcement to host community meetings after tragic acts of gun violence shake our neighbors.



I was in the holiday spirit waiting for our Winter Wonderland event! Santa even stopped by for photos.



We had a great turnout, I loved meeting everyone who came out.



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I'm here to help!

My team and I can help with:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate
- Information about jobs, housing relief and utility assistance
- Prescription assistance for seniors
- Driver's License & Vehicle Registration



Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion

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

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$380



Questions? Contact my office for help receiving your refund!



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PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM EXPANDED

Applications are now open for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program! The program provides income-eligible senior citizens and people with permanent disabilities a rebate on the property taxes or rent they paid in the previous year.

I'm pleased to report the program is now expanded in 2024 to include more people in our community, thanks to legislation I helped pass into law in June. The new law raises the income eligibility limit for both homeowners and renters to \$45,000 and raises the maximum rebate to \$1,000, allowing more folks to stay in their homes and afford their basic necessities. In Philadelphia, there are supplemental rebates available for those in need the most.

If you need more information about the program or need help with the application, please contact my office. Likewise, if you would like my office to visit your senior group or community to explain the new guidelines and expanded program, please let us know.