

Ben ★★★★★ Sanchez

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VO



SHARING MONTGOMERY COUNTY WITH MY POLICY COMMITTEE COLLEAGUES

The House Democratic Policy Committee arranges hearings all over Pennsylvania and tours the commonwealth to see first-hand how legislative action affects people's lives. I was happy to welcome them to Montgomery County several times, as we talked about the rising costs of necessities, local history, and healthcare accessibility.

We visited Family Promise Food Pantry for a discussion on safe, affordable housing and food insecurity. The pandemic exposed and exacerbated these serious problems in our area, and the committee examined why so many people in our area struggle to afford these basic needs. Then, we toured Family Promise's impressive facility and learned about what they do to help people in need.

We also traveled next door to the historic La Mott section of Cheltenham Township. We discussed historic preservation and how it can increase tourism and contribute to an area's economic development. Recently, we came back to the 153rd legislative district and took a very informative Policy Tour of the brand new IUOE Local 542 Health Center right here in Upper Dublin. It was incredible to see all that this extensive new facility can do. The medical staff are ready and available to help those associated with the Local 542 and provide the quality care that they deserve.



Scan this QR code to watch a quick video about Family Promise Food Pantry.



NORTH HILLS' NEW HEALTH CLINIC

The North Hills Community Center has been vacant for years, so my office had been working with Upper Dublin Township to secure a partner to fill the void in care left when the last health clinic closed its doors. In July, I was so happy to see our efforts come to fruition. Opening the VNA Family Health Center at North Hills was an achievement of tremendous collaborative effort. Thanks to our wonderful partners at the VNA, and everyone's hard work, we're able to eliminate barriers to low-cost, high-quality care right here in our community. I am excited to hear about how this facility benefits people for years to come!

North Hills VNA Family Health Center offers care from birth through end of life – helping people access 22 different benefit programs such as SNAP, CHIP and the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program as well as general health care. If you'd like to make an appointment for any of these services, give them a call at (215) 572-7880.



AT WORK IN THE CAPITOL

I've been hard at work in Harrisburg introducing legislation that reflects our community's values and that would improve our commonwealth for every resident. To view a full list of bills I've sponsored this session, visit: <https://bit.ly/RepSanchezsLegislation>.



House Bill 1527 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Increasing Personal Needs Allowance Deduction

Pennsylvania seniors are due for a cost-of-living adjustment so they can comfortably afford essential personal items.

Residents of an assisted living facility do not get all of their needs met from the care they receive and Medical Assistance alone. The monthly allowance residents receive for personal care items has not been adjusted in almost 20 years.

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSORS (BI-PARTISAN)
Representatives Sanchez, Pickett, Kim and Probat

House Bill 637

Prohibition of the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense

Close a criminal justice loophole that allows assailants to avoid sentencing or convictions by blaming their action on a victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.

LGBTQ+ victims of violence should feel protected by Pennsylvania's justice system, not betrayed.

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSORS
Rep. Sanchez & Rep. Schlossberg

House Bill 610 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Reform Name Change Publication

The current process is expensive, antiquated, is an invasion of privacy and a risk to personal safety. This bill would remove the current publication requirements and safeguard court records to protect the petitioner, streamlining the process.

Because announcing your name change should be shared on your own terms.

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSORS
Rep. Sanchez & Rep. Guent

House Bill 638 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Transgender Community Name Change Assistance Grants

Establish a state grant program that would provide money to local governments, counties and organizations to assist transgender individuals with changing their name.

Accessibility to funds allows for accessibility to service

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSORS
Rep. Sanchez & Rep. Shusterman

House Bill 155 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Modernizing our Home Care Workforce Hiring Process

Remove an obstacle to hiring direct care workers by allowing interviews to be conducted using two-way video.

We can maintain integrity during hiring for this essential service while increasing convenience.

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSOR
Rep. Sanchez

House Bill 609 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Removing Sex From Birth Certificates

Someone's gender identity is a personal journey

Removing sex designations on birth certificates would prevent one bureaucratic hurdle that transgender individuals must overcome to live their authentic lives.

Ben Sanchez PRIMARY SPONSORS
Rep. Sanchez & Rep. Webster

House Bill 338 *Ben's Bill Breakdown*

Reporting Lost or Stolen Firearms

If lost/stolen firearms continue to go legally unreported, it contributes to gun trafficking and straw purchasing. By reporting the loss/theft to law enforcement, we can deter firearm-related crimes and facilitate the return process to the rightful owner.

Combating gun violence doesn't mean penalizing responsible gun owners.

Ben Sanchez CO & PRIMARY SPONSORS
Rep. Kenyatta & Rep. Sanchez

We have introduced House Bill 336

that would ban the future possession, purchase, transfer, use, or manufacturing of assault weapons in PA.

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Rep. Sanchez

CO-PRIME SPONSOR
Rep. Abney

This bill would be a major victory in the fight against the nationwide gun violence epidemic and help keep all Pennsylvanians safe.

\$6 MILLION AWARDED TO OUR COMMUNITY

Part of my job as your state representative is to ensure our community gets its fair share of state funding. Here are some of the grants I helped bring home this year:

- \$388,000 for traffic signal upgrades along Rt. 611.
- \$175,000 to Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership for the Alverthorpe Park stream restoration project.
- \$500,000 to improve the intersection of Jenkintown and Meetinghouse roads in Abington Township.



- \$203,000 to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Meadowbrook Farm Visitors Center to install restrooms.
- \$125,000 to Rockledge Borough to purchase a new work truck.
- \$84,000 to Rockledge Borough for a new pole barn garage for their Public Works Department.
- \$4.5 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funding available for Upper Dublin Township Municipal Building reconstruction project.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



I held a shred event in conjunction with state Rep. Melissa Cerrato. If you missed it, make sure to follow me on social media to know when the next one will be!



Although I couldn't be there in person because of voting session in Harrisburg, I was honored to (virtually) stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine at Manor College.



Redeemer Valley Farm has some incredible plans in the works, and I was happy to hear about them as I fed their goats during my visit.



As a community leader, I was welcomed by some of our area's youngest residents to read to them as part of Overlook Elementary School's "One School, One Book" initiative.



It was an honor to be part of the ribbon cutting for the new Schaffer Center, Salem Adult Citizens Center in Abington. I joined colleagues from local, county, state, and federal government – including Gov. Josh Shapiro to welcome this wonderful addition to our community.



It's always a pleasure to host the Fall Family Resource Fair Trunk or Treat at the Upper Dublin Library with my colleagues.



Thank you to Abington Police Department for always hosting a fun-filled National (Pre) Night Out.

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE: APPLY BEFORE DEC. 31

If you plan to apply to the state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate program, be sure to submit your application before Dec. 31. You can apply online at my.path.pa.gov, or contact my office for assistance at (215) 517-6800.

DEADLINE EXTENDED
DUE DECEMBER 31

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM DEADLINE

What you need to provide:

- EVERYONE**
All earned income tax forms (1099, 551, W2s, etc.)
- HOMEOWNERS**
Copies of all paid tax bills
- RENTERS**
Signed form from the landlord

\$35,000
household income for homeowners

&

\$15,000
household income for renters

For those on Social Security, half of 302/502 income is excluded for eligibility.

The PTRR program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. This provides rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2022.

Please note that due to a backlog, it is currently taking over four months to receive a rebate.

WATCH FOR UPDATES ON THE SPRING PRIMARY

As of this writing, Pennsylvania's 2024 Primary Election is scheduled for April 23, 2024. The PA House passed a bill that would move the primary earlier as it falls on Passover. The legislation is awaiting consideration in the state Senate. If the primary is rescheduled, I will post about it on my social media pages and include notice in my bi-weekly emails. Be sure to follow me on social media so you don't miss any updates on this important matter @RepBenSanchez and sign up for my e-newsletters on my website, www.repbensanchez.com. All voters are reminded that they can vote by mail in Pennsylvania – for more information visit <https://www.dos.pa.gov>.



STATE AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION NEWS

REAL ID

To increase the efficiency of the REAL ID application process, Gov. Josh Shapiro recently expanded the list of documents that meet the requirement for proof of one's Social Security Number. In addition to a Social Security Card, PennDOT now accepts a W-2 form, SSA-1099 form, non-SSA-1099 form, or a pay stub with the applicant's name and full Social Security Number on it. These changes are a result of bipartisan collaboration between



the governor's administration and the General Assembly, and they are intended to make the REAL ID application process easier and more convenient for Pennsylvanians.

REAL ID is a version of your driver's license or state ID card that meets enhanced federal security requirements. A REAL ID driver's license or ID is optional for Pennsylvania residents, but if you don't have one, you will need a passport or other form of federally acceptable ID to board domestic flights or enter some federal facilities once the law takes effect on May 7, 2025.

RENEW YOUR SENIOR KEY CARD AT MY OFFICE

Did you know that my Abington district office staff can help you apply or renew your SEPTA Senior Key Card? Call our office for more information.



If you have a SEPTA Senior Fare Card that has expired, you are now able to renew your card at your local state rep's office. Please reach out to schedule an appointment. You can reach our office at 215-517-6800 or email us at RepSanchez@pahouse.net



REPORT A POTHOLE

Pennsylvania's location and climate make our roads especially prone to potholes. However, that doesn't mean one should ruin your daily commute. You can report a pothole directly to PennDOT at any time by visiting www.customercare.penndot.gov or by calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD.

FREE RIDES HOME FROM EVERY EAGLES GAME

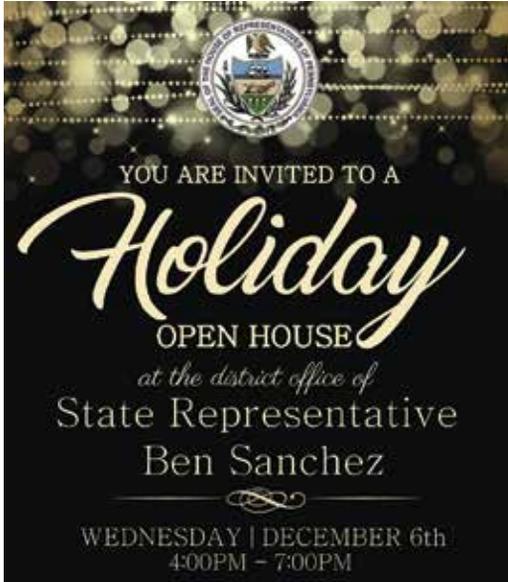
You can get a free ride back from NRG Station after every Eagles home game on SEPTA's Broad Street Line. However, please note that regular fares apply for all BSL travel TO the game. Go birds!





State Representative
BEN SANCHEZ

1175 Old York Road
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lpo.ts.1123

MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- PennDOT issues or questions — including disability license plates and placards.
- Obtaining birth or death certificates.
- Free notary services.
NEW: by appointment only
- SEPTA Senior Key Cards.
- Obtaining voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications.
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate forms (for those who qualify).
- CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) and Pennie.
- Information on PA's 529 College Savings Plans and Able accounts.
- PACE (pharmaceutical assistance for qualified senior citizens).
- Information regarding PHEAA (PA Higher Education Assistance Agency).
- Requests for state informational materials.
- Questions or issues with any state agency.
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups.
- Citations from the PA House of Representatives for outstanding local accomplishments and important family milestones.



MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

at the
Upper Dublin Public Library

Every Thursday from 9:30am - 12pm

Have local and legislative updates delivered straight to your inbox

Every other week, I send out emails detailing what is happening in Harrisburg, other state-related updates, community news and more. Stay informed and opt in by visiting:

<https://www.pahouse.com/Sanchez/emailsignup>

Our office's walk-in hours are Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All other office hours are by appointment only. My staff is available by phone, (215) 517-6800, and email, RepSanchez@pahouse.net, weekdays 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Also, I have mobile office hours in Upper Dublin every week. See above for details.