

STURLA

Report

From State Representative
MIKE STURLA
96th Legislative District

Fall 2017

WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/STURLA



TOYS FOR TOTS APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AT STURLA'S OFFICE + ONLINE

If you know of a family in need this holiday season, my office will serve as an application site for the Toys for Tots program. Registration can be done at www.pahouse.com/Sturla or at my office located at 150 E. King St. My staff will provide free assistance with the application process and will help make sure the application is filled out thoroughly and completely to ensure eligibility.

All submissions are due by November 3, 2017. A valid identification for parents/legal guardians and children will be required when toys are picked up. Parents/guardians will receive a postcard in the mail in December with information on toy pick-up.

Please contact my office at 717-295-3157 or stop by 150 E. King St. for free help with submitting your request.



REAL ID EXTENDED THROUGH 10/10/18

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security again extended Pennsylvania's REAL ID enforcement grace period through October 10, 2018, as state officials work toward complying with REAL ID requirements. This extension means that

Pennsylvania residents will not face access issues when entering federal facilities or boarding commercial aircraft

through that date. PennDOT anticipates that REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses will be available at the customer's option in March 2019. More information about REAL ID, including frequently asked questions, can be found at

www.dmv.pa.gov



OUTDOOR DINING WITH PETS

I recently joined Rep. Justin Simmons in co-sponsoring bipartisan legislation – House Bill 1750 – that would amend

food safety laws to allow pet dogs at outdoor dining facilities. The bill allows restaurant owners to opt-in to creating a pet-friendly, outdoor seating area at their facility. We believe this gives restaurant owners and pet owners an alternative to keep their furry friends close by while out and about and still maintain food safety guidelines. House Bill 1750 awaits consideration by the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee.





VETERANS APPRECIATION EVENT

This summer, I had the opportunity to host a Veterans Appreciation Open House at my district office. Veterans were invited to hear from our resident Veterans Service Officer and other officials on programs and services that could be helpful to them. The event was a great success, and I feel honored to have recognized our brave service men and women and their families.

If you are a veteran, please call my office at 717-295-3157 to schedule an appointment with our veteran service officer on the second Wednesday of each month to provide assistance with veterans' benefits, scholarships, health benefits, survivor benefits and more.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

Our 2017 Back to School Giveaway was another great success! The event was moved to the Lancaster Barnstormers' Clipper Magazine Stadium. We provided over 1,500 students with the opportunity to get new backpacks, uniforms, shoes and books. The entire day was full of fun and good information for families from state and local agencies about important programs and services. Students and their families were also treated to a Barnstormers game and ballpark meal. A special thank you to all who contributed and volunteered at the event. Check out my website (www.pahouse.com/sturla) to see a video, photos, and a full list of all sponsors, volunteers and community partners.

SAVE THE DATE for next year's event!
August 19, 2018

We'll be back at the Lancaster Barnstormers' Clipper Magazine Stadium. If you would like to help out in any way, please call my office at 717-295-3157 or email mrodriguez@pahouse.net.



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

I am part of the Lancaster County Clean Water Consortium to help with clean water efforts in Lancaster. The consortium is a forum of municipal officials, engineers and businesses – including the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lancaster County Conservation District and Lancaster Area Sewer Authority – and more information is at www.lccwc.com.



During Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week, I joined fellow members of the Chesapeake Bay Commission (CBC) to acknowledge how Pennsylvania's waterways impact the bay. I serve as vice chair of the CBC's Pennsylvania delegation. The CBC is a tristate legislative assembly that represents Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. Go to www.chesbay.us for more information and even attend our next meetings in Harrisburg on November 9/10.

FIGHTING FOR CHIP FUNDING


I introduced House Resolution 560 urging the United States Congress and President Donald Trump to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program, which expired on September 30, 2017. CHIP provides low-cost health insurance to 9 million children up to age 19 (including nearly 200,000 in Pennsylvania) who are uninsured and not eligible for Medical Assistance. The federal government enacted CHIP in 1997 based on Pennsylvania's model, and it was last reauthorized in 2015. If the program is not reauthorized, Pennsylvania and 26 other states are projected to exhaust federal CHIP funds during January-March 2018.

STANDING UP FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH



On June 21, I joined in a nationwide effort to show that I #StandWithPP. Planned Parenthood provides health care to 2.4 million women who might not otherwise have access to quality care. Defunding Planned Parenthood would disproportionately impact and harm low-income, minority communities and those in rural areas. I will always stand up for women's health.

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE DEADLINE IS 12/31/17



The deadline to apply for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is December 31, 2017. Because of the holiday schedule, we encourage you to stop in as soon as possible to get those applications submitted.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates can boost rebates up to as much as \$975.

My office at 150 E. King St. provides FREE ASSISTANCE with the application process.

Please contact my office at 717-295-3157 and speak with a member of my staff so that we can be sure you have the identification and records needed to submit the application.

CAUTION: If you receive a solicitation to pay a fee to submit your application, please ignore it. The state does not charge a fee to apply for a rebate.

J.P. MCCASKEY STATE CHAMPION



In June, I welcomed Nathan Henderson and his mother Grace to the Capitol to celebrate his first-place finish in the Class AAA Boys 3200 Meter Run event at the 2017 PIAA State Track and Field Championships. He has graduated from J.P. McCaskey and is continuing his impressive running career at Syracuse University. My Chief of Staff Greg Paulson (far left) also joined us.

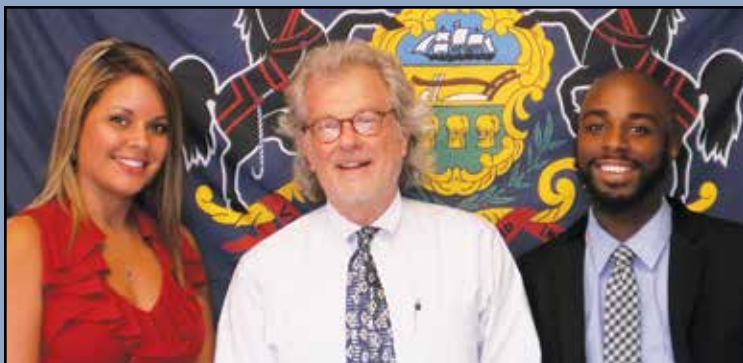


STURLA ON FACE THE STATE

Did you miss my appearance on WHP-21's Face the State on October 15?

Go to my website (www.pahouse.com/sturla) – to watch the show and get regular updates about my appearances on PCN, SmartTalk and other media.

HERE TO SERVE YOU



From left to right: Mena Rodriguez, Greg Paulson (Chief of Staff) and Howard Jones are available to help you navigate state government programs and services. Call my Lancaster office at 717-295-3157 or stop by the office at 150 E. King St. for free assistance.

Ayuda disponible en español

Tengo la fortuna de tener personal bilingüe listo para ayudarle con cualquier problema relacionado con el estado. Puede llamar a la oficina al 717-295-3157 o pasar por la oficina localizada en 150 E. King St., Lancaster. También puede contactar a Mena Rodriguez al mrodriguez@pahouse.net.

MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Requests for literature – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups