



# STATE REP. JENNIFER O'MARA

SUMMER 2025

## 165<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



**Constituent Services Office:** 26 East Fourth Street • Media, PA 19063 • P: (610) 544-9878  
**Capitol Office:** 217 Irvis Office Building • P.O. Box 202165 • Harrisburg, PA 17120 • P: (717) 783-4090

## Dear Neighbor,

I hope you are having a fantastic summer and doing your best to stay cool in spite of the heat. I know many residents in our communities have faced severe weather resulting in power outages. I want you to know that my staff and I are always available to assist, including help with contacting the utilities and connecting you with local resources. We are always just a phone call away!

In this edition of the newsletter, you will find a recap on my legislative priorities

so far this session as well as information about the status of the budget—both in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C.—as of this writing in late July. You will also find information about our mobile office hours in Springfield Library and reminders about the various ways my office can be of service to you and your family. Finally, don't forget to check out our upcoming events, including our signature Veterans Day Breakfast and our Senior Fair, both happening this fall.

As I prepare to welcome my second child, I also wanted to take a second to thank so many of you who have reached out to provide support throughout my pregnancy. I also want to thank my staff who will all be working tremendously hard to ensure I have the time necessary to welcome my new baby to the world—just like everyone should in America in 2025.

Warm regards,

## Mobile Office Hours Reminder

In December, my office started offering mobile office hours at the Springfield Township Library in the Adult Section Quiet Room on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **If you plan on stopping by for service, appointments are highly encouraged and can be scheduled by calling us at (610) 544-9878.** My district office at 26 E. 4th St. in Media is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Sign Up For My E-Newsletter

Scan the QR code to sign up for my e-newsletter. Stay up-to-date on how I am working for YOU in Harrisburg!



# Legislation Update

## Counseling Compact

Pennsylvania is facing a growing mental health crisis, with over 62% of communities lacking adequate access to care. Long waitlists and a shortage of providers leave too many without the treatment they need. My H.B. 668 would authorize Pennsylvania to join the National Counseling Compact, allowing licensed counselors from other member states to practice here without needing a new license. This would expand access to care, especially in underserved areas, and offer patients more flexibility. By joining the compact, Pennsylvania can strengthen its mental health workforce and ensure timely, effective support for Pennsylvanians in need.

**Last action:** Passed out of the House on June 4 and awaiting consideration by the state Senate.



## Family Care Act

The Family Care Act is a bipartisan bill which I am co-sponsoring that would establish a statewide paid family and medical leave program here in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvanians would be able to utilize this leave after giving birth, provide care for their children and elderly or disabled loved ones, find safety from domestic violence, take time to recover from personal illness or injury, as

well as other circumstances. This legislation, H.B. 200, is modeled after effective paid leave programs in other states, offering flexibility for businesses, protecting small employers and ensuring benefits are broadly accessible.

**Last action:** Approved by the House Labor & Industry Committee and awaiting full House consideration.

## World IVF Day

Thanks to my resolution, H.R. 235, July 25 was named “World IVF Day” in Pennsylvania. It helps recognize the positive impact that IVF, or in vitro fertilization, and embryologists have had for those experiencing infertility. Every year, more than half a million babies are born thanks to IVF, giving those with infertility issues

a second chance at starting a family. One of those families includes my own: My husband and I were thrilled to welcome our daughter Katherine in 2022, and we have been eagerly awaiting the chance to welcome our second IVF child this summer.

**Last action:** Approved by the House on June 24.

## Increasing Access to Driver's Licenses & ID Cards for Individuals Living with Disabilities

In a victory for those with severe lifelong medical conditions and military families stationed outside of the state, the House approved my bill to make it easier for them to renew photo ID cards and driver's licenses. H.B. 1410 would allow people with certain conditions to ask PennDOT to issue a card renewal using the most recent color photo and signature of the applicant on file. The need for this legislation was brought to my attention by a constituent who experienced the ease of remote ID renewal during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it was available to all Pennsylvanians. The provision for military families was added in the amendment process as I worked in bipartisan fashion to help save those families time and travel costs.

**Last action:** Approved by the House on March 24 and pending in the Senate Transportation Committee.

## Pumping Protections for New Moms

Choosing how to feed an infant is a huge decision, so parents should never have to consider potential legal ramifications for providing for a child in public. That's why I introduced H.B. 556, which would add milk expression, or pumping, to the Freedom to Breastfeed Act. Currently, pumping is not specifically identified under the 2017 law that protects public breastfeeding from criminal charges. My bill would protect those parents who need the flexibility to pump milk in public to ensure their child is fed.

**Last action:** Approved by the House Judiciary Committee on May 14 and pending before the full House.



## Hospital Closure Reform



While Crozer might be closed due to the negligence of Prospect, the Delco House Delegation has introduced H.B. 1460, legislation that would create a review process for hospital mergers to ensure that Pennsylvania puts people above profit. The bill would give the state Attorney General's Office expanded power to review mergers, acquisitions, and other major financial transactions involving health systems. With hospital consolidations and closures happening at an alarming rate in Pennsylvania, our bill would give the Attorney General's Office the tools they need to adequately protect patients and combat predatory mergers and anticompetitive business practices in health care.

**Last action:** The bill passed the House on June 10 and is pending in the Senate.

## Crozer Update

Tragically, the Crozer Health System was closed earlier this year, due to Prospect's mismanagement. What Prospect has done to Crozer Health, including Crozer Chester Hospital, Taylor Hospital, DCMH, and Springfield Hospital, since they purchased the system in 2016 should be criminal. Unfortunately, our state laws allow for-profit entities and private equity firms to buy hospital systems. Current laws allow them to do lease backs, like they did at Springfield Hospital, and give little oversight to the Attorney General to stop bad actors from decimating systems in order to profit themselves.

While we are still seeing the impacts across the county, much has been and continues to be done for our remaining hospitals. Since 2019, the commonwealth has supported Crozer with over \$55 million in state funds. The Delco Senate and House delegation was also able to secure \$1 million in funding for assistance with EMS services after Crozer EMS stopped serving half of the county. If you were a patient of a provider at Crozer and need your medical records, you can scan the QR code or call 888-607-6722. Former employees looking for work can text "healthjobs" to 888777 for updates from PA CareerLink. ChristianaCare has purchased the ambulatory locations previously owned by Crozer, pending court approval. These locations should reopen in the near future to provide more primary care options to residents.

To Request  
Medical Records

SCAN HERE





# FY25-26 Budget Update

On July 14, the House passed a slimmed down version of Gov. Josh Shapiro's proposal, which included more money for schools, hospitals, and workforce development. A bill to fund transit across the commonwealth was passed in June and still awaits consideration by the Senate. However, I know that many have been focused on what's happening in D.C. I share the concerns of many Delaware County residents worried about the effect of federal cuts to Medicaid and SNAP. In Delco, approximately 127,000 people are enrolled in Medicaid, and 76,000 people receive SNAP benefits.

Adding additional hurdles with work requirements and requiring renewal every six months instead of a year will mean 310,000 Pennsylvanians will lose Medicaid while 140,000 will lose food assistance. The cap on student loan borrowing will force students to take high-interest private loans or forgo college altogether. Those who go into repayment plans will face significantly higher monthly payments and fewer opportunities for student loan forgiveness.

Meanwhile, economic experts across the board agree this bill is only going to exacerbate income inequality and raise the cost of college with very little reward to our economy. As our Governor has acknowledged, this cut in funding to the state, between \$40 to \$60 billion, is not something the commonwealth can fix. While most of these cuts and programs will not take effect until next year, I am committed to supporting our vulnerable communities as much as possible and will continue to share guidance and information as we continue to learn the devastating impacts of this bill.

## Constituent Services

### REAL ID

As of May 7, 2025, the federal REAL ID requirement is officially in place. All U.S. citizens must now present a REAL ID or a U.S. passport to board domestic flights or enter federal facilities and military bases. If you haven't yet obtained a REAL ID, you can still do so by visiting a REAL ID Center or Driver License Center. Be sure to bring the necessary documents, which are:

- Proof of identity
- Social Security card
- Two proofs of Pennsylvania residency

You can also apply for pre-verification online if you received your first PA driver's license after September 2003. For more information, including a full list of required documents and locations near you, visit the REAL ID section of <https://www.pa.gov/>. If you are unsure if your documents are acceptable or have any questions, please call my office at (610) 544-9878 and a member of my staff will assist you.



## VETERANS ASSISTANCE

Call (610) 544-9878 to set-up an onsite appointment with a Veteran Service Officer

SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
10 AM - 2 PM

Veterans may be assisted with:

- ★ Compensation + Pension Claims
- ★ Education Benefits
- ★ Enrollment in the VA Health Care System
- ★ Burial + Survivor Benefits
- ★ State Benefits
- ★ Obtaining Military Personnel + Medical Records

JENNIFER O'MARA  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Do you have a  
**SEPTA Senior Fare Card?**

Seniors ages 65 and older can ride SEPTA routes in PA for free with a Senior Fare Card! Sign-up or reapply for your card at my district office today!

JENNIFER O'MARA  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**Media**  
26 E 4th Street  
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# Around the District



Walking in the Delco Pride Parade alongside other local officials and community groups. Rain or shine, I'm always proud to stand with the LGBTQIA+ community!



Stopping by Step-by-Step in Morton to read one of Katherine's favorite books.



Joining Gov. Shapiro and local firefighters in Bethlehem to share why it's imperative we support our fire fighters in our yearly budget.



Hosting an Environmental Expo with PennEnvironment to share information about sustainability, clean energy options and how to effectively address climate change in our community!



Holding our annual shredding event in April, alongside state Sen. Tim Kearney. It was a huge success and I was happy to see so many people safely disposing of waste!



Awarding a grant check in March to Marple Township for lighting at the South Marple Little League Field with state Sen. Tim Kearney and state Rep. Lisa Borowski.



Ready to serve at our Senior Breakfast at the VFW, where I got to speak to members of the community about the different services available to them.



Joining members of the Southeast Delegation on a visit to Bartram's Garden. It was great to see all the upcoming projects and community programs!



Sen. Kearney and I once again hosting a very successful Trades and Apprenticeship Fair this year, sharing future opportunities with local students and parents.



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26 East Fourth Street  
Media, PA 19063

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# 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

## IMPORTANT DATES



**Last day to register to vote in the municipal election**  
[vote.pa.gov/Register](https://vote.pa.gov/Register)



**The deadline to apply for absentee or mail-in ballot.**  
[vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot](https://vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot)



**Election Day: Polls are open from 7am - 8pm. Completed mail ballots must be received by 8pm.**



**vote.pa.gov**

## Upcoming Events

### SEPTA Senior Card Event with Sen. Kearney

Wednesday, October 15th  
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Upper Prov. Twp. Building

### Shred and E-Waste Event with Sen. Kearney

Saturday, October 18th  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Springfield Mall

### Senior Fair

Thursday, October 23rd  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Springfield YMCA

### Veterans Breakfast

Tuesday, November 11th  
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Springfield Country Club