

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

Water Ratepayer Bill of Rights

As public utilities, water and wastewater service providers should clearly demonstrate that they are delivering their customers safe services at a fair price.

To ensure this level of transparency and accountability, I have introduced legislation that would provide a bill of rights to water and wastewater ratepayers. This comprehensive bill would:

- Require water and wastewater utilities to publish an annual report with information regarding average residential billing amounts.
- Reform the acquisition process for water and wastewater systems, ensuring that residential customers do not experience inflated rates.
- Allow customers to have an expanded role in matters regarding acquisitions and the source of their water.

Firework Law Updates

Many residents have brought to my attention the unintended consequences of the previous legislature's 2017 change to the state fireworks law. Recently, I attended an Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee hearing on how increased access and improper usage has led to an increase in injuries, property damage, escaped or injured pets, horses and other livestock and negatively affected veterans. This is of concern for residents. To help address this, I have signed onto House Bill 1687, which would provide restrictions on usage, provide municipalities authorization to impose violations and increase penalties for offenders.

Phorid Fly Research Update & Hotline

For the last few years, the phorid fly has been a seasonal burden to southern Chester County residents. I am advocating to renew funding so we can continue to learn more about this pest. Since this fly is linked to mushrooms, our most prominent cash crop, Penn State University has been hosting information sessions with mushroom growers to provide updates and tips from their findings in previous studies. I'm grateful that PSU and members of the mushroom industry are working together to address the phorid fly and have been making progress toward minimizing its presence in our community.

For more information on the phorid fly or to ask questions about the flies' presence in your home or business, you can call the phorid fly hotline at 1-833-574-6743. Information received via the hotline will assist with Penn State's ongoing research and testing.

HEALTH CARE

During this session, I have co-sponsored several pieces of legislation that ensure affordability and access to medical care. House Bill 1873 would cap the price of insulin at \$100. My House Bill 2454 would increase access and coverage of telemedicine. This legislation would provide equal coverage of mental health services, COVID-19 and services offered under CHIP.

Additionally, I have called for votes on House Bills 469, 470, 471 and 913, which would protect coverage for pre-existing conditions, would provide coverage for emergency services, prescription drugs, and behavioral health treatment, would end lifetime coverage limits, and would preserve the right of adult children to remain on their parent or guardian's insurance until they are 26 years old.

