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May 2017

## Burns backs state scholarships for fire company volunteers

To help boost sagging membership in the unpaid emergency services field, Rep. Burns has introduced House Bill 48, which would provide state scholarships to fire company, ambulance service and rescue squad volunteers.

In an April news conference at the Cambria County Fire School, where he later participated in training exercises, Burns said he drafted the bill as a means to allow emergency services to attract and retain volunteers.

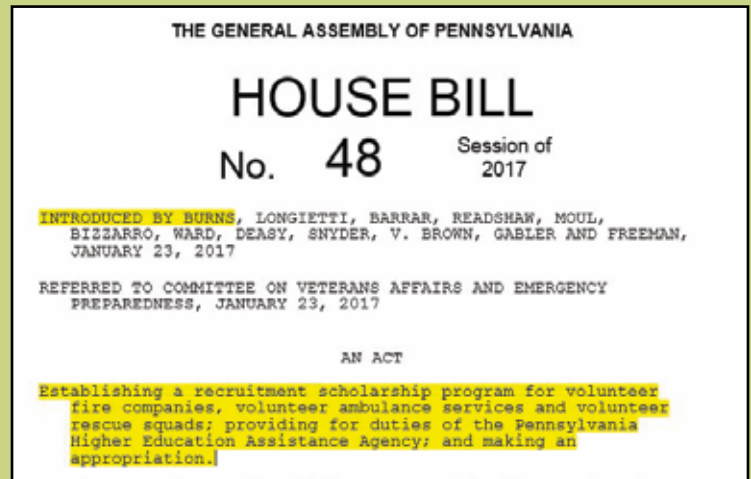
He also sees this as a way to help young people defray the cost of higher education while introducing them to important community service.

Under Burns' bill, scholarship recipients would be required to be a member of a volunteer organization for at least six months and maintain active volunteer status – and have graduated from high school or have received a high school equivalency diploma.

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency would be tasked with providing the scholarships from an annual state appropriation.

Many are already supporting Burns' bill, including John Hawksworth, Cambria County Fire School chairman, and Richard Erculiani, emergency services instructor at Greater Altoona Career & Technology Center.

House Bill 48 currently awaits action by the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee.



## 'National Police Week' in Pa. declared per Burns resolution

Rep. Burns recently obtained House approval for his resolution naming May 14 through 20 "National Police Week" in Pennsylvania. House Resolution 16 also designated May 15 as "Police Officers Memorial Day" in the commonwealth.

Burns believes it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices that law enforcement personnel face every day.

He also wants to issue a reminder that on a daily basis, police officers serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent from deception and the weak from oppression.

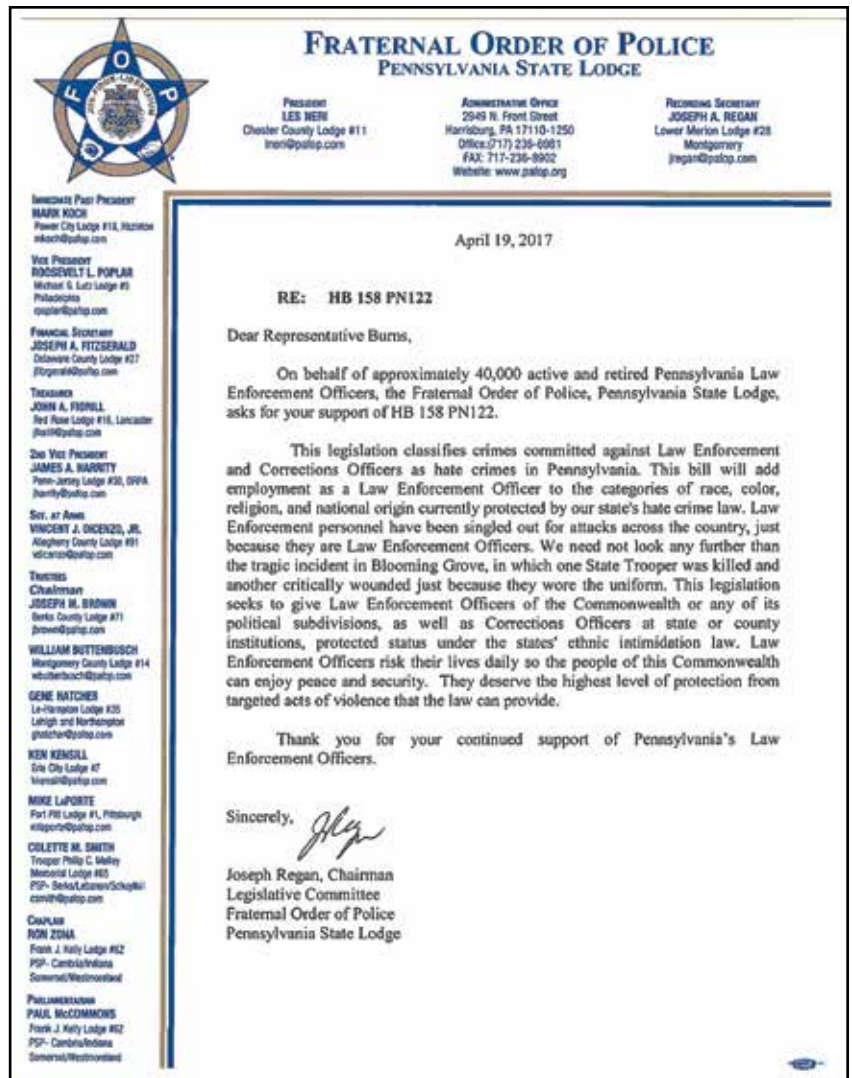


# Fraternal Order of Police backs Burns on Blue Lives Matter

Rep. Burns is proud to have the continued support of the Pennsylvania State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, which in April officially endorsed Burns' legislation that would make assaulting a law enforcement officer a hate crime.

House Bill 158, introduced by Burns, would put employment as a law enforcement officer on the same level as race, color, religion and national origin under the state's existing hate crime law.

To the right is the letter from FOP official Joseph Reagan, reprinted in its entirety.



**Rep. Frank Burns**

April 20 at 3:37pm

The families of state police Corporal Bryon Dickson, who was shot dead from long range, and Trooper Alex Douglass, who was seriously wounded in the same incident, should be foremost in our thoughts as the case of their now-convicted shooter moves to the penalty phase.

I am more energized than ever to push for my Blue Lives Matter bill, which would make it a hate crime to assault a law enforcement officer. Some think it isn't necessary – but I sure do.



## Frein Guilty on All Charges

MILFORD – A jury has found Eric Frein guilty on all 12 charges in the ambush shooting and killing of state troopers in Pike County. Frein was charged with first-degree murder, attempted murder, first-degree murder and attempted murder of a...

## Follow Frank on Facebook!

Rep. Burns has a large and loyal following on Facebook, where he provides timely insights on legislation, his district activities and happenings in Harrisburg.

He also provides his opinion on state-related current events, such as the one to the left.

You can even view video of Rep. Burns as he unveiled his "scholarships for firefighters" legislation at the Cambria County Fire School – or as he made the rounds during his latest Pet Food Drive, visiting schools to make collections then dropping them off at the Humane Society of Cambria County.

Join the crowd and follow Frank on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RepFrankBurns](http://www.facebook.com/RepFrankBurns).



# Schools vital to success of Burns' annual Pet Food Drive

Throughout April, Rep. Burns once again conducted his annual Pet Food Drive, accepting donations at his offices and participating area schools: Portage Elementary, Central Cambria School District, Forest Hills Elementary, Cambria County Christian School, Cambria Heights Elementary and Saint Benedict Elementary. The homeless animals at the Humane Society of Cambria County were the beneficiaries of your generosity.

Cambria County Christian School



Portage Elementary School



Saint Benedict Elementary School



Forest Hills Elementary School



## Jobs, jobs, jobs! ... Burns welcomes 251 new positions to Lower Yoder Township

Rep. Burns knows that having a good job solves a lot of other problems, so he was happy to announce in April that Convergys Corp., a global customer management service provider, is creating 251 positions in Lower Yoder Township.

Burns hailed the \$2.7 million company investment as the second "big news" this year, following the prior announcement of a \$1.9 million state grant to help create a Business Aviation Management Degree Program at Saint Francis University, in a cooperative venture with John Murtha Johnstown-Cambria County Airport.

Last fall, Burns brought the House Democratic Policy Committee to Ebensburg for a public hearing on economic development. He promises to continue leaving no stone unturned in the effort to bring new jobs to our area.



## Jackson Township Burns announces \$400,000 grant to replace old wastewater lines



Adding to the tens of millions of dollars that have come into the 72nd Legislative District during his tenure, Rep. Burns in March announced a \$400,000 state grant to the Jackson East Taylor Sewer Authority.

The money will fund a massive replacement of sewer lines at Leisure Village Mobile Home Park in Jackson Township. Nearly 3,500 feet of 8-inch pipe and 5,700 feet of 4-inch pipe are being replaced – along with 11 manholes.

Burns is happy to see **state funding covering four-fifths of the cost** of this vital infrastructure improvement project.

## Law enforcement can count on Burns: He votes for 30-day delay before releasing officer names in shooting incidents

Rep. Burns doesn't believe that reputations should be unfairly tarnished, so he voted in favor of a bill that would create a 30-day "cooling off" period before the names of police officers involved in shooting or serious injury cases are released.



*“As the founder of the House’s Blue Lives Matter Caucus and the author of my own bill to make assaulting a law enforcement officer a hate crime, I believe this cooling off period is prudent.”*

— Rep. Burns

Burns believes in government transparency, but like you is all-too-aware of the rush to judgement in these cases that can escalate to vigilante-style behavior and ruined reputations and careers, damage that can't be taken back when the facts later emerge.

Waiting 30 days or until the official investigation is complete, whichever comes sooner, Burns believes, is the best way to ensure that justice is served for all.

## Representative Frank Burns' offices can help you with:

- Car registrations, special tags, disability placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Consumer complaints
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies



***Any problem with state government!***