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State Representative | 21st Legislative District

SARA INNAMORATO



PUBLIC HEALTH OVER PRIVATE PROFIT

Hello Neighbors,

The health and well-being of our neighbors should always come first.

As your elected official, I will always act as a healthy barrier between the advancement of private industry and the safety of the people who live in my communities. I was sworn in to represent the people, not profits for private companies. No amount of jobs or

economic development are acceptable when the air harms our health and the water isn't safe to drink. When our roads are flooding, our hillsides are crumbling, and our infrastructure is failing---we're neglecting the public goods we were sworn to protect.

I'm dedicated to prioritizing regulations that protect our families, and pushing for public investments that safeguards our communities during the climate crisis.

It's time for a change.

PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION. ARTICLE I, SECTION 27 SAYS:

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

I'm sworn to protect your constitutional right to clean air and water, and to be a steward for our common goods. Here's what I'm focusing on in the year ahead:

WATER

This session, I'm leading the charge to close dangerous loopholes that allow the oil and gas industry to introduce hazardous and radioactive materials into our waterways. **I'm fighting to ensure that the oil and gas industry no longer receives special treatment when it comes to the hazardous waste streams they create.** Any industry that operates in the commonwealth should be answering to the same regulations that protect our health, our environment, and our tax dollars.

My bills demand accountability, transparency, and a commitment to safety. This is an issue that impacts every Pennsylvanian: our rivers, streams, and waterways not only connect our communities — they connect our drinking water sources.

AIR

Pollution doesn't recognize borders. The particulate matter emitted in one region travels with the wind, often nestling in the low-lying river towns at the heart of our district. When our air quality suffers, my neighbors suffer, navigating emergency room bills for our kids who suffer from asthma, missed school or workdays, and more.

That's why **I've joined my fellow legislators to put real teeth behind the fines and penalties issued to offending companies who currently treat them like the cost of doing business.**

We need real deterrents, not a slap on the wrist for billion-dollar operations.



I toured Washington County to meet with impacted families, physicians, and researchers who are asking their elected officials for help. When our families are suffering, I can't ignore my duty to the people of Pennsylvania or the constitution I was sworn to defend. Pictured: Lois Bower-Bjornson, Clean Air Council / Vanessa Lynch, Moms Clean Air Force / Sara / Dr. Ned Ketyer, Pediatric Alliance/ Leanne Leiter-Earthworks, Resident

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Your district office is hard at work solving problems in our communities. We know that flooded basements may mean a sewer shed is overloaded, or that cracks along a street may be the first warning of a landslide. We help our neighbors apply for medical assistance or connect with local services to get the health care they need. Every day, we have a chance to help our neighbors find solutions — and in turn, get to know our neighbors better.

Meet some of these folks here.

"I'm a third-generation Pittsburgher: my grandfather was in the first class of students at Arsenal Elementary School and I grew up in the shadow of Clairton Coke Works in the Mon Valley. I love my community, but I'm breathing the same air pollution my grandfather did. As a public health educator, I know the scope of the problem facing our communities. We can do better and we must do better."



NICOLE SUMMERHILL
*Public Health Educator,
Etna resident*



ZAHEEN HUSSAIN
*Director of Sustainability,
New Sun Rising Millvale,
Lawrenceville resident*

"Our neighbors in Millvale know there's a problem: they can smell it in the air, they have to keep their windows closed, limit their time outside. Our neighbors want a thriving economy, but they also want to hold polluters accountable. We have an active and engaged community who want to build a better future."

I like to breathe; I like my neighbors and family being able to breathe. It shouldn't be more complicated than that. I believe that the ability of a small number of people to make billions of dollars does not outweigh the right of people to be able to perform the most basic function of life: breathing."

"I run an innovations lab at Shaler Area Middle School. My students study how food fuels our biological system, and how oxygen helps break down glucose that our mitochondria convert into energy. When we study air quality, we're studying our own bodies. We should be asking: how are our lungs and minds responding to the stress of the particulate matter in our air?"

I grew up in Sharpsburg listening to my great-grandmother talk about washing the soot from our lace blinds twice a week. I've renovated houses across the city, and I've seen generations of pollution recorded in the black dust in our walls. We have a responsibility to our future generations to act on the science we have."



CHRIS LISOWSKI
*Shaler Area Middle
School Teacher,
Sharpsburg resident*



BILLY EPTING
Lawrenceville resident

"I moved to Pittsburgh to attend undergrad at the University of Pittsburgh. After years of advocating for cleaner air, I became a statistic. I developed an uncomfortable (though thankfully not serious) chronic lung condition. Respiratory and cardiovascular disease are unusually prevalent in Pittsburgh thanks to our poor air quality. Now I've made my home here in Pittsburgh and I'm raising an amazing one-year-old daughter, I don't want her to be a statistic too."

"Parks are critical to healthy communities. Taking care of our environment lets us take care of our people. We can play a vital role in protecting our environment through prioritizing green infrastructure, conservation practices, and more. By connecting our people to their public parks, we improve public health and strengthen community bonds. By providing educational programming for our young citizens, we hope to create the next generation of environmental stewards who will advocate for and protect our most precious public goods – our water, air, and open spaces."



ELOISE PEET
*Parks and Recreation
Director, Ross Township*



BRITTANY RENO
Borough Council, Sharpsburg
MAYOR
MATTHEW RUDZKI
Sharpsburg

"For people living in Sharpsburg, the increasing volume and volatility of stormwater impacting our community is not a matter for political debate — it's a reality of our lived experience at the bottom of multiple watersheds. Approaching stormwater management solutions from a local, regional, and state perspective is absolutely critical not only to protecting our river valley ecosystem, but to ensuring our community members' ability to thrive economically and maintain their families' physical health and wellbeing."

– *Brittany Reno, Sharpsburg Council President*

"Sharpsburg lies nestled between two bluffs and the Allegheny River, with three streams passing through our community, as well as six combined sewer overflows. To say that water quality and stormwater management is always on our minds is an understatement. With over a mile of riverfront and a new 60 acre private-side development spanning the majority of it, our access to the river is a tremendous asset and economic engine. Conversely, unless and until we invest in green infrastructure and separating our sewer system, a major flood could cost the borough and its residents tens of millions of dollars."

– *Matthew Rudzki, Mayor*

"Big change starts small: it starts with connecting with your neighbors over the holidays or planning the community garden in the spring. Our community in Etna has been recognized as the first certified EcoDistrict in the world for our commitment to sustainability, equity, and community-driven development. We've focused our efforts around stormwater management with our Green Master Plan (2014), our Green Streetscapes (2014, 2017 and 2020), rain barrel homeowner initiative (2017) and with our awesome partnerships and collaborations with our local community organizations. Our small community should be a model for big changes in the world."



**MARY ELLEN
RAMAGE**
Borough Manager, Etna



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

COFFEE WITH SARA

I want to hear from you! Join our team for state services and a healthy, open dialogue over coffee. Catch our upcoming events in the district:

ROSS

Date: March 10th
Time: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Location: Ross Township Starbucks
4885 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh

ASPINWALL

Date: April 3rd
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Location: Panera Bread
Waterworks
4942 Freeport Road
Pittsburgh



SHRED EVENT AT BUSY BEAVER WITH STATE REP. ADAM RAVENSTAHL

Date: May 2nd
Time: 10 a.m. to noon
Location: Busy Beaver
4743 Plummer St., Pittsburgh



SENIOR BREAKFAST & STATE SERVICES MORNINGSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER

Date: March 15th
Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Location: 6944 Presidents Way, Pittsburgh



SENIOR WELLNESS FAIR WITH STATE REP. ADAM RAVENSTAHL

Date: Oct. 16th
Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Ross Community Center
1000 Ross Municipal Drive, Pittsburgh





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YOUR DISTRICT OFFICE CAN HELP

- All PennDOT services: reduced fee vehicle registrations, handicap placard applications
- Pennsylvania income tax forms and questions
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments for your neighbors — let us know who we can celebrate!
- Complaints about road conditions or infrastructure
- Unemployment compensation problems
- Accessing the Department of Human Services: SNAP benefits, medical assistance applications
- Issues regarding utility companies
- Birth certificate applications, finding copies of your vital records
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate preparation
- Senior ConnectCard applications through Port Authority of Allegheny County

You have a dedicated team of problem-solvers and trained experts on state government. We're here to help you navigate any issues with state agencies or services!

Please feel free to contact my office at 412-781-2750 for assistance.