

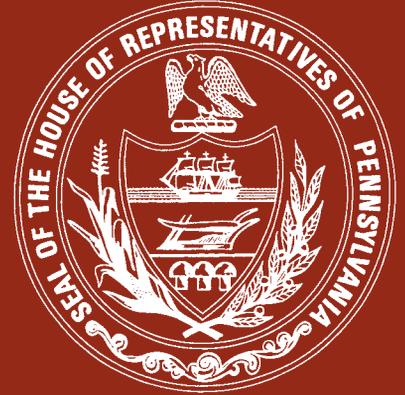
STURLA

Report

From State Representative
MIKE STURLA
96th Legislative District

July 2020

WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/STURLA



BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY ON AUG. 22

Rep. Mike Sturla's 9th Annual Back to School Giveaway will now be held on Saturday, August 22 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Clipper Magazine Stadium (650 N. Prince St.). It will be open to students who live in the School District of Lancaster area. **Parents and guardians must register their children** in kindergarten through 8th grade to receive a free backpack, school uniform, shoes and other items.

Due to the pandemic, students will simply pick up a filled backpack. **Registration is required** to ensure proper crowd control and you will be assigned an arrival time. Since there will be no special activities this year, we are asking that only registered students and their parent or guardian be in attendance for quicker processing. **Walk-Up Registration will not be available.**

Students must be present and accompanied by an adult to receive items. Please wear masks when attending.

*Are you, your business or organization interested in volunteering or contributing to the event?
Contact Francis Miliano in Rep. Sturla's Lancaster office at (717) 295-3157 or fmiliano@pahouse.net.*



Scan here to
register online
today



Visit www.pahouse.com/Sturla/backtoschool to register your child for the event!

SHREDDING EVENT ON AUG. 1 AT STURLA'S OFFICE

Rep. Sturla will be hosting a shredding event outside his Lancaster office (150 E. King St.) on Saturday, August 1 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. **Only two banker's boxes are allowed per person.**

To register, please email RepMikeSturla@pahouse.net or call (717) 295-3157.

*Any paper can be shredded, and staples or paper clips do not need to be removed.
Hard drives, tapes, solid-state drives, and other electronic media also can
be shredded, but they must be removed from devices.*

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LEGISLATION TO FIX FIREWORKS PROBLEM

In response to people being adversely affected by those abusing fireworks, Rep. Sturla is co-sponsoring two bills that would address this problem. One would repeal the changes to the fireworks law (Act 43 of 2017) that allowed residents to use more powerful fireworks. The other bill would give municipalities more authority to regulate the use of fireworks and provide penalties for violating these regulations.

LAW GIVES SECOND CHANCE TO SKILLED WORKERS

Gov. Tom Wolf has signed into law legislation that Rep. Sturla voted for that prohibits denying an occupational license to someone based on a criminal record unrelated to the field of work. It also allows people to get a preliminary decision if their conviction is likely to disqualify them from licensure to prevent them from wasting time and money on training. Lastly, it creates temporary licenses in barbering and cosmetology for re-entrants trained in a correctional facility, and they can demonstrate competency by working one to two years. These reforms will enable skilled workers to get a second chance and embark on successful careers.



POLICE REFORM BILLS BECOME LAW

Two police reform bills supported by Rep. Sturla have become law.

One law requires law enforcement officers to be evaluated for post-traumatic stress disorder after a lethal use-of-force incident. It also mandates annual training on the use of force, including deadly force, de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. Officers must also receive biennial instruction in community and cultural awareness, implicit bias, procedural justice and reconciliation techniques.

The other law will create a database to track officer disciplinary actions that law enforcement agencies can search to find potential red flags before hiring an officer who is separated from another law enforcement agency.

Rep. Sturla is still pushing for additional reforms that would outlaw the police chokehold; mandate drug testing after a police-involved shooting; improve access to police video footage; create an oversight board to professionally certify, train and provide continual education to police officers; establish an independent review process when police kill or seriously injure civilians; and require officers to be mandated reporters of police misconduct, corruption and brutality.

You can read Rep. Sturla's op-ed "Why We Cannot Wait To Address Inequalities and Racism" at www.pahouse.com/sturla by clicking on News Releases & Publications under the News tab.





SCHEDULING OFFICE APPOINTMENTS

With the pandemic ongoing, Rep. Sturla's Lancaster office at 150 East King Street is only open by appointment. When you arrive at the office for your appointment, you must wear a mask and practice social distancing. You may use the office mailbox on the adjacent fence (pictured here) to drop off documents for processing, including for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. To schedule an appointment, email Rep.MikeSturla@pahouse.net or call (717) 295-3157.

MAIL-IN VOTING



This year's primary election was the first time Pennsylvanians could vote by mail without giving a reason. To apply for a mail-in ballot for the general election on November 3, go to www.votespa.com. At this website, you also can register to vote and find all other important voting information.

U.S. CENSUS DUE BY OCTOBER 31

If you have not already done so, please submit your U.S. Census via 2020census.gov by October 31, 2020. By being counted, you will help Lancaster receive more federal funding for important programs.



STAYING INFORMED

If you would like to receive email updates on COVID-19 and other state government issues, go to www.pahouse.com/Sturla and click on Contact Me under the Help & Services section in top right hand corner. While on Rep. Sturla's website, you can click a link to PA's Guide for Responding to COVID-19 for all the latest state information on the pandemic. For timely updates, you can follow [@RepMikeSturla](https://twitter.com/RepMikeSturla) on Twitter and Facebook.

BANNING ASSAULT WEAPONS

Throughout his legislative career, Rep. Sturla has co-sponsored a ban on assault weapons in PA, including HB 307 for this session. The Republican-controlled legislature has constantly blocked such legislation and they have also prevented municipalities from enacting their own gun safety measures. Rep. Sturla will continue to fight for gun safety reform.

REAL ID ENFORCEMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 2021

The deadline to obtain a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card has been extended one year to October 1, 2021. At that time, a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card, or a U.S. passport or military ID, will be necessary to board a domestic commercial flight or enter a secure federal facility. This extension is in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PennDOT is not currently issuing REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses or ID cards. If your license is expiring, you should obtain a regular driver's license or ID card. When REAL IDs become available again, you can choose to upgrade to a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card. There is no requirement that any resident obtain a REAL ID.

More information for REAL ID can be found at www.dmv.pa.gov/REALID.

Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID to:



Board a
domestic
flight



Enter a
federal
building



Enter a
military
base

NEW PROGRAM HELPS PAY SUMMER UTILITY BILLS

The newly established LIHEAP Recovery Crisis Program offers grants to help people having trouble paying utility bills due to COVID-19.

The program provides up to \$800 for households that have had their utility service shut off or are in jeopardy of being without utility service. To qualify, an individual's income can be no

greater than \$18,735 (yearly). This limit increases by \$6,630 for each additional person in the household.

The LIHEAP Recovery Crisis program will run through August 31, 2020.

Applications may be completed by visiting www.compass.state.pa.us or by calling 1-877-395-8930.

COVID RELIEF MORTGAGE AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Rep. Sturla voted for legislation that created the \$175 million COVID Relief Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program. This new program is now open for people who became unemployed after March 1 or can document at least a 30% reduction in annual income since March 1 related to COVID-19. Administered by the PA Housing Finance Agency, you can apply at www.phfa.org. Under Gov. Wolf's executive order, Pennsylvanians are protected from eviction or foreclosure until August 31.

IMPORTANCE OF WEARING MASKS

As the country continues to manage the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that everyone continue to wear masks when out in public and practice social distancing to prevent further infections. Working together can reduce community spread of the virus. Your sacrifices now will help us get back to normalcy sooner.



MY MASK
PROTECTS YOU,
YOUR MASK
PROTECTS ME.



NEED UC ANSWERS?

With the state's Unemployment Compensation system handling a record amount of cases due to the pandemic, Rep. Sturla's office can help you get answers to your questions. Email your name, address, social security number, and UC issue to Rep.MikeSturla@pahouse.net for assistance.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

While high school and college graduates were not able to have typical graduations this year, Rep. Sturla congratulates all of them on their achievements during this historic pandemic and wishes them successful future endeavors. If any new graduates need help with state-related issues, please email Rep.MikeSturla@pahouse.net.

PA TREASURY DEPARTMENT SAVINGS PROGRAMS

The PA Treasury Department has four savings programs available to Pennsylvanians.

- The PA 529 College and Career Savings Program (pa529.com) helps families save for education.
- PAABLE (paable.gov) gives people with qualified disabilities, and their families and friends, a tax-free way to save for disability-related expenses, while maintaining government benefits.
- Keystone Scholars (pa529.com/keystone) provides \$100 for every baby born to or adopted by a PA family after December 31, 2018, to be used for the baby's future higher education expenses.
- PA Savings Pledge (pa529.com/pasaves) helps families save for their children's postsecondary education or vocational training. After signing up, you'll receive a ticket for monthly prize drawings, along with reminders to save. If your ticket is drawn, simply show you've been saving for your child to claim your prize up to \$1,000.





State Representative
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lpo.ts.0720

HERE TO SERVE YOU

Rep. Sturla's district office staff is happy to help you navigate state government programs and services. Call the 150 E. King St. office at (717) 295-3157 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.

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



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