



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Donna Bullock

195th Legislative District

2835 W. Girard Ave. • Philadelphia, PA 19130 • (215) 684-3738
104 Irvis Office Building • P.O. Box 202195 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-2195 • (717) 787-3480

www.RepDonnaBullock.com • RepBullock@pahouse.net
facebook.com/RepDonnaBullock • @RepDonnaBullock

Summer 2020

Recover, Reopen, Rebuild

Dear Neighbor,

As your state representative, I could not be prouder of how our community has responded to a pandemic, civil unrest and an economic downturn all at once. Whether by supporting local businesses, sewing masks, delivering food to seniors, displaying rainbow balloons on our stoops, or making our voices heard through protests, we are resilient, caring and creative. In the coming months, we will be required to work together even more to recover, reopen and rebuild our communities.

The coronavirus pandemic and stay-at-home orders impacted the livelihoods of many Pennsylvanians and highlighted racial and socioeconomic disparities in health, education and economic opportunity. Through the pandemic, I worked to put your needs first. I advocated for responsive legislation. I voted to allocate millions in state and federal CARES Act and other funds to schools, healthcare institutions, small businesses, frontline workers and families. I worked with our state leaders to extend deadlines for mail-in ballots, state tax returns, and PennDOT registrations and renewals. I worked with community partners to organize food and mask distributions throughout the district.

Normally, I would be reporting on the state budget at this time of year. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 health crisis restricted the revenue necessary to put a responsible, realistic budget together for the full year. So, the General Assembly passed a spending plan to cover five months. In November, we'll revisit the budget and, as always, I'll be fighting for a fair and balanced budget that protects seniors, invests in our children and grows our economy.

In this newsletter, I will highlight police reform efforts, COVID-19 relief programs, legislation in Harrisburg and resources for our neighbors. As we move forward, my staff and I are still here to serve you. We are available remotely, by appointment and for curbside constituent services. Please call us at 215-684-3738 for current hours and operations. Together and responsibly, we will recover, reopen and rebuild.



COVID-19

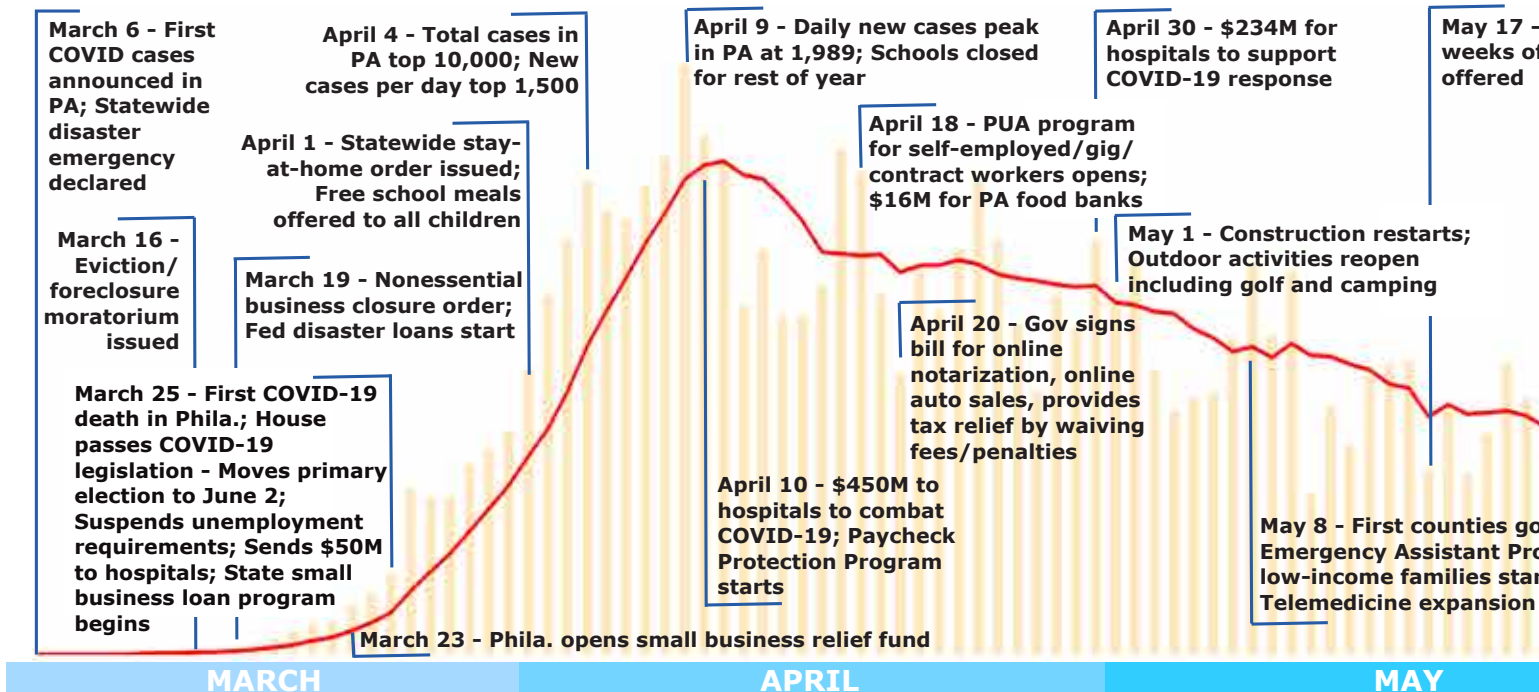
Relief for our Community

Unemployment Compensation Programs

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a historic surge in the number of people seeking unemployment compensation in Pennsylvania. In addition to regular unemployment, the federal CARES Act expanded unemployment benefits through new programs, including:

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, for gig workers, self-employed workers and independent contractors.
- Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, an additional \$600 per week for unemployment recipients for eligible weeks (this program ended July 25).
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation, which provides an additional 13 weeks of benefits for those who have exhausted their regular 26 weeks of coverage.

For the latest updates on unemployment compensation programs, visit the state's Unemployment Compensation website at uc.pa.gov. My office has assisted many of our neighbors navigating the unemployment compensation process. If you need help, please call my office at 215-684-3738.



Do you need help paying your rent, home heating bill, etc.?

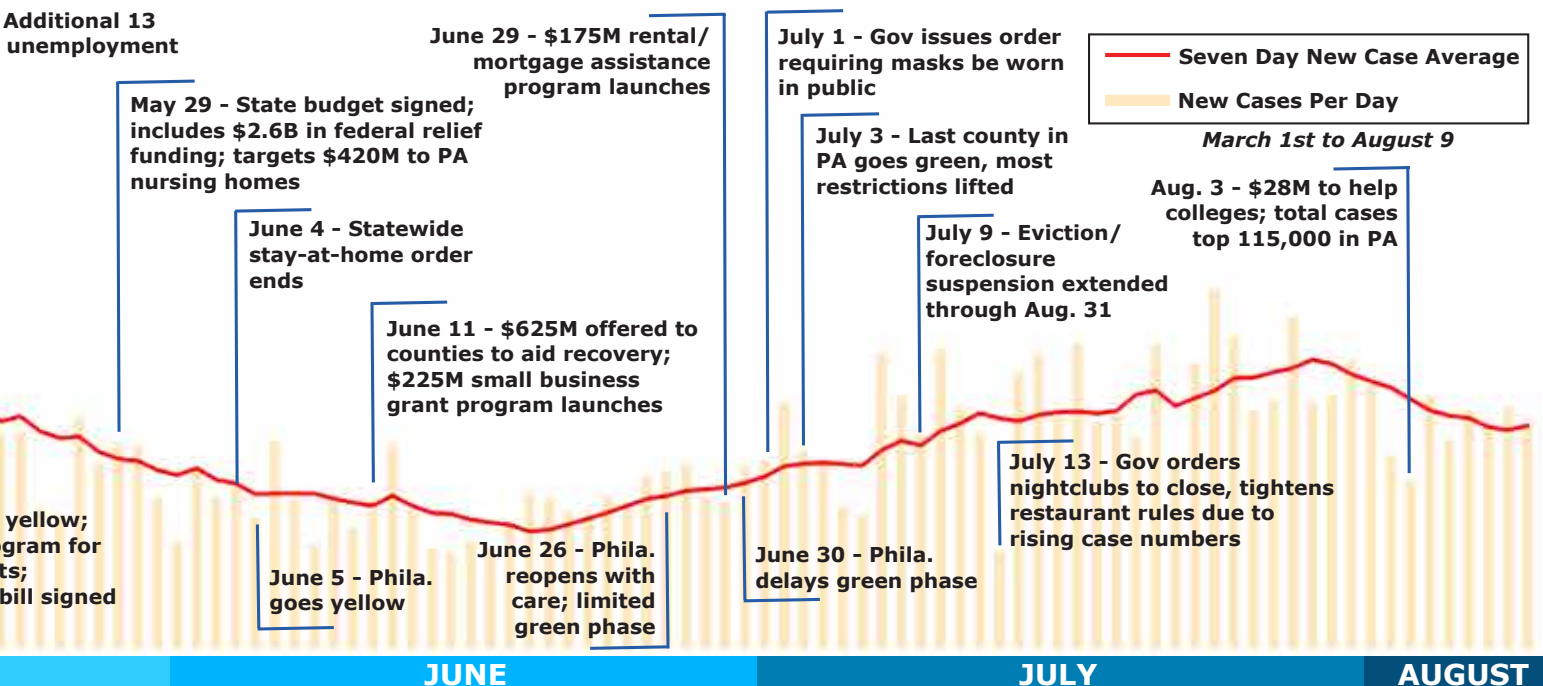
Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many state programs have been expanded or extended to help people in need. For example, the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program application deadline has been extended until the end of the year.

If you need help determining which services might be helpful for you, please reach out to my district office at 215-684-3738.



I co-hosted a Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium COVID-19 testing event on Aug. 8.

Additional 13 unemployment



Legislation and Policy Corner

Pandemic or not, I'm continuing to work for you. In addition to all the work I've done to help our most vulnerable neighbors through this pandemic and to address police reform, I've continued to introduce and advocate for meaningful legislation that will be impactful after this pandemic is behind us. **Here are some of the bills I recently sponsored:**

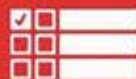
- **Gun Violence Prevention (HR662 and HB2717):** As gun violence persists in our community, the PA House unanimously supported my resolution to recognize Gun Violence Survivors Week in February. I also introduced legislation to create the Violence Intervention Program (VIP), a competitive grant program to support, expand and replicate proven and effective community-based violence reduction initiatives.
- **Regulating Fireworks (HB2735 and HB2657):** Fireworks are a great way to celebrate holidays and special occasions -- if used responsibly. Unfortunately, our neighborhoods were overwhelmed with fireworks displays this summer. I co-sponsored two bills that would provide more local control and limit the sale and use of fireworks.
- **Classify and Regulate E-Bikes (HB2646):** I recently introduced legislation to create three different classes of electric-assist bikes and clarify where they can be used in Pennsylvania.



In July, the Transportation Committee held an informational hearing on my e-bike legislation.

THE CENSUS COUNTS.

SO DO YOU.



CENSUS COUNTS 2020

Every 10 years, the United States conducts a census. This count of U.S. residents helps determine how \$675 billion is spent by the federal government for programs like CHIP, Medicaid, SNAP and WIC. That's a lot of money!

The census also determines how Pennsylvania is represented in Congress for the next 10 years.

Be counted! Make sure you complete the census. Please, visit 2020Census.gov and get counted today!



The Road to Police Reform

The first time I debated in the Pennsylvania House chamber was Nov. 18, 2015, just three months after my first election. The issue? A bill proposed to protect the identities of police officers involved in a shooting. The bill passed the House and Senate, but not the governor's desk. The names of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice and Sandra Bland were already synonymous with police violence, but more names followed. When unarmed, 14-year old Antwon Rose from East Pittsburgh was killed, I sat down with a group of my colleagues to work on legislative solutions. In the spring of 2019, we introduced a police reform package. The bills sat in committee for months. I was frustrated.

Fast forward to May 2020; George Floyd and Breonna Taylor's names are added to the list, and many more. People took to the streets. My colleagues and I quickly turned to our police reform package. The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus took control of the PA House chamber to demand our bills be considered. We collaborated with city and community leaders to form the Police Reform Working Group. Together, we helped advance to the governor's desk two bills that included police reform language, and saw several actions taken by the governor and the city of Philadelphia.

Our work is not done. There are bills that still need to get to the governor's desk, including two of my bills: (1) to amend a 50-year-old law that governs the police arbitration process that often puts officers who have been disciplined back on the job; and (2) to require law enforcement officers disclose their identity and have their badges in plain view.

Police reform is long overdue. I am committed to do all that I can to further equity, safety, transparency and accountability in policing in Pennsylvania.



On Aug. 9, I attended the Stay Golden Strawberry Mansion March and Mural Unveiling at 33rd and Diamond. Here I am with community leaders Tonnetta Graham and Tyrone Williams near the mural.



STATE REP. DONNA BULLOCK

P.O. Box 202195

Harrisburg, PA 17120-2195

lpo.jc.0820

Save the Date!

Fall Shredding Event
Protect Your Identity

Saturday, Sept. 19
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Oak Street Health,
29th and Dauphin Streets

For more information, call:
215-684-3738.



2020 GENERAL ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES



Last day to register to vote for the general election.

register.votesPA.com



Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot.

votesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot



Voted mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by the county by 8pm.

votesPA.com/County



General election day. Polls are open from 7am to 8pm.

votesPA.com/Polls

VotesPA.com