



STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 167TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Kristine Howard

WINTER 2026

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Dear neighbor,

With Spring right around the corner, two things are top of mind – warmer weather and the Pennsylvania budget.

Gov. Josh Shapiro recently delivered his annual budget address to the Pennsylvania General Assembly. His plan invests in education, safe communities, and economic development opportunities to keep people, businesses, and jobs in Pennsylvania, while maintaining a firm focus on affordability.

I support Gov. Shapiro's proposal and am happy to say I have introduced several bills aimed at the very things named in his proposal.

Gov. Shapiro wants Pennsylvania to take advantage of the economic possibilities offered by AI while ensuring Pennsylvanians are protected from the risks presented by this new technology. I have two bills to create these protections. H.R. 81 asks the U.S. Congress to clarify copyright law regarding AI, while H.B. 1533 codifies that the consequences of AI must be treated as those of the person or entity deploying the AI, in the same way companies are liable for the actions of their employees.

The governor spoke of the need to support a multiplicity of career paths. H.B. 775 provides a tax incentive to employers who offer returnships, which are paid, intent-to-hire internships that help transition employees back into full-time roles after an absence of two or more years from the workforce.

The governor also noted that the demand for licensed social workers is projected to increase by an additional 12% over the next four years. Thankfully, H.B. 66 – the SWEET Act – would provide stipends to graduate students completing internships as a requirement of an accredited Master of Social Work program, allowing more students to pursue this important work.

Gov. Shapiro also discussed the need for affordable housing at length. I, along with Rep. Tarik Khan and Sen. Nikil Saval, have forthcoming legislation to help individuals build their credit records through opt-in reporting of utility and rent payments, which would ultimately facilitate the purchase of homes.

Additionally, H.B. 49, which voids predatory boilerplate contract language, and H.B. 989, which provides a three-day cancellation period for online sales, align with the governor's wish to "enact commonsense reforms that will ban deceptive contracts by retail providers."

I look forward to working with the governor over the coming months to bring these important bills to fruition.

Best wishes,

Kristine Howard

Satellite Office Hours

Members of my staff will be on site at locations across the district on the following days:

Henrietta Hankin Library
2nd Wednesday of each month
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Chester Springs Library
4th Tuesday of each month
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.



Report Potholes!

Potholes and other roadway concerns on state roads can be reported by calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD or visiting penndot.gov and clicking on "Submit Roadway Feedback."



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Scan to sign up for
my e-newsletter to
stay up to date!

lpo.kw.0326

Senator **Carolyn Comitta** Serving Chester County

State Representative **KRISTINE HOWARD**

Now's the time to get rid of
unwanted, sensitive documents!

FREE SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday April 11th
10am-1pm

Malvern Fire Company
424 E. King St. Malvern, PA 19355

Limit **3** boxes per vehicle.
This event is for **individuals**, no businesses please.

For more information visit:
pasenatorcomitta.com/ShredApril2026

@SenatorComitta

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
PRIMARY ELECTION DAY IS

MAY 19

Register to vote by
Monday, May 4 at
vote.pa.gov/Register

Tax Season

Pennsylvania tax forms are available at my District Office, as well as at our wonderful Chester County Libraries.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians aged 65 and older; widows and widowers aged 50 and older; and people with disabilities aged 18 and older.

The income limit is \$48,110 a year, with half of Social Security income excluded. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of deceased claimants who meet all other eligibility criteria. Visit www.revenue.pa.gov for more information.

Applications are due by June 30, 2026.

Birth and Death Certificates

My office can help you obtain copies of birth and death certificates. Certificates cost \$20 each, paid via check or money order made payable to "VITAL RECORDS."

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Visit pahouse.com/Howard and sign up for my email newsletter to stay up to date!

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