



STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAMIE WALSH



RepWalsh.com Facebook.com/RepJamieWalsh X.com/RepJamieWalsh

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the warm springtime weather! It has already been a busy year in the 117th Legislative District. However, in June, I will be spending most of my time in Harrisburg as we finalize the 2025-26 state budget. I am committed to crafting a spending plan that adequately funds core state programs and doesn't raise taxes on hardworking Pennsylvania residents.

As always, my staff and I remain committed to providing you with the best possible service at my district offices in Dallas and Sugarloaf. We also hold satellite office hours in a number of municipalities. You can find that information in this newsletter. We are happy to help with any state-related matter. Simply stop by or give us a call.

You are also invited to register for my Friday email updates at RepWalsh.com, and follow me on Facebook and X to stay on top of the latest happenings in Harrisburg and here at home.

Thank you for the privilege of being your state representative.

WORKING FOR YOU



Roundtable to save Penn State Hazleton



Gun law seminar in Lehman Township



Community meeting on White Haven State Center's future



Brainstorming session on recruiting young firefighters

Supporting and Protecting PARENTAL RIGHTS

Seeking to fulfill a promise I made on the campaign trail; I am co-sponsoring a series of 13 House bills that focus on protecting the rights of Pennsylvania parents regarding the education and well-being of their children.

I look forward to working with my House colleagues in moving these important proposals through the legislative process.

Some of the measures I have co-sponsored include:

- **House Bill 158**, which would ensure females are not forced to compete against biological males playing on women's sports teams.
- **House Bill 236**, which would remove an exemption currently allowing school libraries to possess and exhibit any legally obscene or highly sexual content.
- **House Bill 246**, which would prohibit state-funded schools from requiring the completion of diversity courses or other classes that negatively impact some students.
- **House Bill 248**, which would require parental notification and consent for student participation in school-related clubs and organizations.
- **House Bill 252**, which would require parental notification and written consent for a student to access and use a mental health digital platform promoted or facilitated by school entities.
- **House Bill 581**, which would prohibit classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through fifth grade; require classroom instruction be age appropriate; and mandate that public schools adopt procedures for notifying parents if there is a change in services regarding a child's mental, emotional or physical health or well-being.
- A bill not introduced yet that would ban drag queen shows on public property or in areas that can be seen by minors and classify such events as an adult-oriented business.

State Budget Process UNDERWAY

We are working hard in Harrisburg on the 2025-26 state budget. Back in February, Gov. Josh Shapiro unveiled his budget proposal, which would spend \$51.47 billion. That's an increase of \$3.57 billion, or 7.5%, over the current year.

With revenues projected to increase by just 2.8%, the governor's plan would fully deplete the state's surplus funds and would again dip into the Rainy Day Fund, as well as require revenue from new taxes on things like recreational marijuana and skill games.

This approach is unsustainable. We must instead focus on policies that expand the economy and create family-sustaining jobs. There is great growth potential in our energy industry alone, and I look forward to advancing policies that support these goals.

However, my top concern with the governor's proposal is the way in which education funding is being allocated. Rural school districts are being short-changed. In fact, two smaller school districts in our area would receive just a 0.6% increase in Basic Education Funding year-over-year and they are talking about cutting band, art and extracurricular activities. Meanwhile, an urban school district next door is getting 12-14% more. The current funding formula is unfair and is crushing Pennsylvania's rural school districts.

The General Assembly and governor face a June 30 deadline to finalize the budget.

SPRING 2025

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 432

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JAMIE WALSH

DISTRICT OFFICES:

Sugarloaf:

669 State Route 93, Suite 3

Sugarloaf, PA 18249

P: 570-359-2138

Dallas:

2825 Memorial Highway

Dallas, PA 18612

P: 570-675-6000

CAPITOL OFFICE:

408 Irvis Office Building, PO Box 202117

Harrisburg, PA 17120-2117

P: 717-787-1117

SATELLITE OFFICE HOURS (By Appointment)

The 117th Legislative District covers a lot of territory, and I know it is inconvenient for some of you to travel to my district offices. That's why I offer satellite office hours in some of the municipalities I represent to help residents with any state-related matters.

Please check the list below to find the satellite office hours near you (April through October only).

To schedule an appointment, call **570-675-6000** or **570-359-2138**.

- ▶ **Black Creek Township Municipal Building**
1980 Tomkicken Road, Bloomsburg
Third Friday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ▶ **Harveys Lake Borough Building**
4875 Memorial Highway, Harveys Lake
Second Tuesday of the month from 1-3 p.m.
- ▶ **Ross Township Municipal Building,**
28 Schoolhouse Road, Sweet Valley
Second Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon.
- ▶ **Salem Township Municipal Building**
38 Bomboy Lane, Berwick
Fourth Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon.
- ▶ **White Haven Borough Building**
312 Main St., White Haven
Third Thursday of the month from noon to 2 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SAVE
THE
DATES**

GRANT SEMINAR

Thursday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to noon

Back Mountain Regional E.M.A. Building, 3593 State Route 118, Dallas, PA 18612
— OR —

Thursday, June 12, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sugarloaf Township Municipal Building, 858 Main St., Sugarloaf, PA 18249

I am hosting seminars for municipalities and organizations to learn how to apply for funding to help continue their service to our communities. Hear from Paul Macknosky, regional director with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development about how to apply for state grants.

Registrations are required. Please contact my Dallas office at **570-675-6000** or my Sugarloaf office at **570-359-2138** for more information or to reserve your seat.

SENIOR EXPO

Tuesday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To connect older adults in the 117th District with state and local resources, I will be hosting a Senior Expo at Insalaco Hall on the campus of Misericordia University.

There will be several break-out sessions with topics including estate planning, Area Agency on Aging programs, Silver Sneakers chair yoga, cyber security and fraud bingo.

VETERANS RECOGNITION AND EXPO

Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To recognize the service of local veterans, I will be hosting a Veterans Recognition Event and Expo at Misericordia University.

Stay tuned for more information!