



State Senator **TIM KEARNEY**

Representing the 26th Senatorial District



Summer 2021



OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE

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(610) 544-6120
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UPPER DARBY OFFICE

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Upper Darby, PA 19082
(610) 352-3409
Fax: (610) 352-3641

HARRISBURG OFFICE

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senatorkearney@pasenate.com



@SenTimKearney

www.SenatorKearney.com

Follow me online for the latest
updates on legislation, community
events and more!

Dear Neighbor,

As your State Senator, the health and safety of our community has been my top priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. The past year has been gut-wrenching for Pennsylvania and the country. The pandemic has upended normal life for everyone – from working families to small businesses to first responders. My staff and I continue to help our neighbors navigate the many challenges of this pandemic.

But hope is on the horizon. All adults in Pennsylvania are now eligible to receive a vaccine. As the vaccine distribution process began, I fought hard to ensure our region received its fair share. I'm happy to report that, as of early May, over 421,000 shots have been administered in Chester County and 396,000 shots in Delaware County. Getting vaccinated is the best thing we can do to get back to the people and places we love – so get your shot as soon as possible!

As we start to turn the corner of this pandemic, I'm focused on getting us up and running on the road to full recovery. In February, the General Assembly passed \$912 million in COVID-19 relief. This funding included rent and utility assistance to keep people in their homes, as well as small business grants to support restaurants and bars. But we have a lot more work to do. As a new member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I'm currently working on the state budget and advocating for crucial services in our district and beyond.

I'm so inspired by the ways that our community has looked out for each other during the pandemic. It's one of the many reasons why I'm very proud to represent you and the 26th District. My offices in Springfield and Upper Darby are now open, so please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I'm here to help!

Tim Kearney
State Senator, 26th Senatorial District

INSIDE:

- Stop COVID – Get Vaccinated!
- Grants for the District
- In the Community
- My Legislation

Stop COVID – Get Vaccinated

All Pennsylvanians aged 16 or older are now eligible to schedule an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine. Getting vaccinated is the best thing we can do to get back to the people and places we love.



Many clinics are offering walk-in appointments, so you don't need to schedule an appointment. Find a full list of providers in your county:

Delaware County

www.delcopa.gov/vax

Chester County

www.chesco.org/covidvaccine

Pennsylvania lifted its COVID-19 mitigation efforts, except masking, on **May 31 (Memorial Day)**. The mask mandate will be lifted when **70% of Pennsylvanians age 18 or older** are fully vaccinated. Get your shot now so we can finally overcome the pandemic.



Fighting for a FAIR BUDGET

In February, Gov. Wolf presented his proposed 2021-22 state budget. After a devastating year for Pennsylvania families and our economy, I'm pleased by Gov. Wolf's priorities for getting us up and running on the road to full recovery.

Gov. Wolf's proposed budget calls for billions to help businesses safely reopen and help people get back into the workforce with good-paying jobs. His proposal also calls for fairly funding schools and repairing school facilities. I'm very happy this proposal also invests in local health departments – this is great news for Delaware County, which is the largest county in Pennsylvania without a health department.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I've been participating in budget hearings and negotiations so we can have a final budget by the end of June. I'm using these opportunities to ask questions, get answers, and advocate for crucial services in our district.

If you have questions about the budget, email me at:
senatorkearney@pasenate.com

What the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN Means for PA

In March, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan. Here's what this means for Pennsylvania:

- 5.8 million Pennsylvanians received \$14.8 billion total in direct stimulus
- 600,000+ Pennsylvanians will keep their unemployment benefits, including an extra \$300/week
- 311,000 Pennsylvania children will be lifted above or close to the poverty line
- \$220 million for local schools and \$212 million for local governments in Delaware & Chester Counties



Building Strong Communities Together

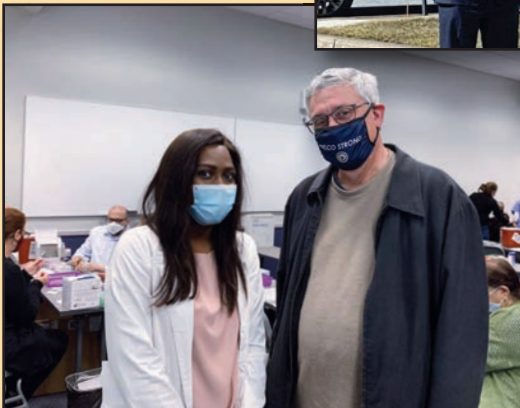


◆ **Springfield High School**
Touring the new Springfield High School facilities with Rep. Jennifer O'Mara.



◆ **Delaware County Wellness Center**
Celebrating the opening of the Delaware County Wellness Center in Yeadon, which will become home to the county's health department.

◆ **Small Business Support**
Announcing a new grant program for the hospitality industry with Gov. Tom Wolf.



◆ **Vaccine Clinic**
Stopping by a vaccine clinic organized by Springfield Pharmacy.



◆ **Earth Day**
Celebrating Earth Day by planting trees on our street.

◆ **Secretary Cardona**
Welcoming U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to Beverly Hills Middle School in Upper Darby.



◆ **Food Drive**
Collecting donations to help feed our neighbors in need.



◆ **Rally for Justice**
Attending a rally in Harrisburg to provide a pathway to justice for survivors of sexual abuse.

Legislative Update

GRANTS for the district

In April, I was delighted to announce that more than \$1.3 million in state grants was awarded to projects in Delaware County. From reducing flooding to improving pedestrian safety, this funding will enable necessary improvements to our local infrastructure. I'm proud to have helped secure these critical investments in our communities.

HERE'S A LOOK AT GRANTS COMING TO OUR AREA:

- **Newtown Township:** \$650,000 for a multi-use trail that will create a pedestrian connection between the Newtown Township Municipal Building and West Chester Pike.
- **Upper Darby Township:** \$425,000 for streetscape improvements along Market Street between Chatham Road and S. Millbourne Avenue.
- **Ridley United Soccer Club:** \$100,000 for improvements to the athletic field at Catania Park.
- **Morton Borough:** \$97,464 for stormwater and water quality infrastructure.
- **Aldan Borough:** \$75,000 for a stormwater system to prevent flooding along Magnolia and Albert Avenues.



BILLS I'm working on

Senate Bill 63: This bill would modernize Pennsylvania's hate crimes law by adding protections for ancestry, sex, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, intellectual or physical disability, and behavioral or mental health. Everyone has the right to live without fear of being attacked because of who they are.

S.B. 296: This bill would ban no-knock warrants, which allow law enforcement to forcibly enter a person's home without warning. I've named this bill "Breonna's Law" after Breonna Taylor, who was killed in March 2020 after police used a no-knock warrant to enter her home in Louisville, Kentucky.

S.B. 464: This bill would allow medical marijuana businesses to

deduct business expenses from their state income taxes. This will help these businesses to grow their operations, create jobs, and reduce the high costs of medical marijuana for patients across Pennsylvania.

S.B. 352: This bill would remove industrial hemp from Pennsylvania's schedule of controlled substances. This would update state law to match the federal government's legalization

of hemp, and allow Pennsylvania to remain a national leader in this growing industry.

S.B. 609: This bill would remove references to homosexuality in Pennsylvania's criminal code. This issue came to my attention after Upper Darby Township removed the same homophobic language from their local ordinances.

COMMITTEE assignments

In January, I received my committee assignments for the 2021-22 session:



- Local Government Committee (Minority Chair)
- Appropriations Committee
- Education Committee
- Transportation Committee
- Labor & Industry Committee

These assignments will ensure that Delaware and Chester Counties have a seat at the table when it comes to supporting public education, improving transportation infrastructure, setting budget priorities, and more.

How Can Our Offices Help You?

LET OUR OFFICES HELP YOU

Our Office Can Help You With The Following:

- Absentee Ballot Application
- Birth Certificate Application
- Death Certificate Application
- Criminal Record Check Application
- Child Abuse Clearance Application
- Consumer Complaint Forms
- Hunting License Application
- Fishing License Application
- Free Notary Service
- Prescription Assistance Applications
- PennDOT Assistance
- Pennsylvania Department of Revenue
- Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)
- Public Utility Commission Complaints
- Property Tax & Rent Rebate Assistance
- State Income Tax Forms
- Voter Registration Application

■ *Any issue with state government*

REAL IDs are now available

PennDOT recently announced that optional REAL ID compliant driver's licenses and photo ID cards are now available for PA residents. To get a REAL ID driver's license or photo ID, residents have three options:

1. Order online if you have already been pre-verified;
2. Visit any PennDOT Driver's License Center, have your documents verified and imaged and your REAL ID driver's license or photo ID will be mailed to you within 15 business days; or
3. Visit one of the twelve REAL ID Centers, have your documents verified and imaged, and receive your REAL ID driver's license or photo ID over-the-counter at the time of service.

**May 3, 2023
is the deadline to get a
REAL ID**

Learn more at PennDOT.gov/REALID

To get a REAL ID in Pennsylvania

You Will Need:

Choose 1 Proof of Identity:

- Certificate of Birth
- Valid Passport



+ Your Social Security Card



+ Choose 2 Acceptable Proofs of PA Residency:

- Current PA Driver's License/ID Card
- Current PA Vehicle Registration
- Proof of Insurance
- Bank Statement (no more than 90 days old)
- W-2 Form or Pay Stub
- Tax Records
- Lease Agreement or Mortgage Documents

AND Proof of all Legal Name Changes (if applicable)

- Certified Marriage Certificate
- Court Order



Attention Seniors! Get Your



Those 65 or older can apply for a free SEPTA Senior Key Card through my offices, eliminating the need to travel to SEPTA headquarters in Center City. No appointment is necessary but proof of age is required. Call (610) 544-6120 or (610) 352-3409 with questions.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Stop by my office and see if you have Unclaimed Property!

No appointment is necessary.
Unclaimed property can include:



- Closed bank accounts
- Uncashed checks (including paychecks)
- Lost stocks and bonds
- Contents of safe deposit boxes
- Life insurance policies
- Expired gift cards/gift certificates

www.unclaimedmoney.com/pennsylvania-unclaimed-property/

STAY INFORMED Join my email update list



I maintain an email list for those who wish to receive weekly updates from me about public meetings, traffic alerts, community events, state and local programs and services, and other items of interest to the community. If you would like to be added to that list, please email me at senatorkearney@pasenate.com



STATE SENATOR
TIM KEARNEY

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JUNE 9

SEPTA Senior Pass/Photo ID Event

9 AM to 3 PM

Sen. Kearney's Springfield &
Upper Darby offices

Call 610-544-6120 to schedule appointment

OCTOBER 30

**Free Shredding & E-Waste Event
with Rep. David Delloso**

9 AM to Noon

Interboro High School

500 16th Ave., Prospect Park, PA 19076

JUNE 16

PA Property Tax & Rent Rebate Event

9 AM to 3 PM

Sen. Kearney's Springfield & Upper Darby offices
Eligibility requirements apply

Call 610-544-6120 to schedule appointment

LOOKING AHEAD

Dates to be determined

Please call 610-544-6120 for more information

JULY

American Red Cross Blood Drive

AUGUST

**Opioid Awareness Vigil
with Sen. John Kane**

SEPTEMBER

Senior Expo

JULY 17

**Criminal Record Expungement Clinic
with Rep. Margo Davidson & Legal Aid**

11 AM to 1 PM

Virtual event

Eligibility requirements apply

Call 610-544-6120 to schedule appointment