

THE POLICY RECAP

A summary of House Democratic Policy Committee Hearings..... May 30 – June 2, 2017

Rep. Leanne Krueger-Braneky Homecare Industry Folsom | May 30

Rep. Krueger-Braneky hosted a hearing on the homecare industry. The committee collected testimony from providers, workers, those who use homecare services, and state and local government officials on how the legislature can help Pennsylvanians stay in their homes longer.

Testifiers included:

- Gary Watkins, consumer;
- Milan Green, consumer;
- Andrea Harrington, homecare worker;
- Ray Landis, advocacy manager, AARP Pennsylvania;
- Vicki Hoak, CEO, PA Home Care Association;
- Maria Dunlevy, founder/business manager, Victorias' Home Care;
- Tom Carroll, board member, Schoolhouse Senior Center;
- Jen Burnett, deputy secretary for Office of Long-Term Living, PA Department of Human Services;
- Kevin Hancock, chief of staff for Office of Long-Term Living, PA Department of Human Services;
- Barbara Nicolardi, planner, Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging.



Rep. Tom Caltagirone

Pediatric Cancer Research Funding

Philadelphia | June 1

Rep. Caltagirone hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee hearing at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Roberts Center for Pediatric Research, to discuss the dire need for pediatric cancer research funding.

Caltagirone requested the hearing because he has introduced a legislative package that would establish funding for pediatric cancer research at four critical pediatric research facilities in the Commonwealth: CHOP, Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Children's Hospital, UPMC Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, and the Abramson Cancer Center in Philadelphia.



Hearing testifiers included Dr. John Maris, pediatric oncologist and chair of Pediatric Cancer Dream Team, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Dr. Valerie Brown, director of experimental therapeutics in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Penn State Children's Hospital; Carly Nemo Wilfong, childhood cancer survivor and advocate; Christopher Winters, president, National Children's Cancer Consortium; and parents and childhood cancer warriors.



Rep. Madeleine Dean Marcellus Shale Severance Tax Abington | June 2

Rep. Dean hosted a House Democratic Policy hearing on a potential Marcellus Shale severance tax.

The committee heard how a severance tax could impact the state, Marcellus Shale industry and the environment.



Testifiers included: Pedro Rivera, secretary, PA Department of Education; Dennis Davin, secretary, PA Department of Community and Economic Development; Scott Perry, deputy secretary for oil and gas, PA Department of Environmental Protection; Rob Altenburg, director, PennFuture Energy Center; Jim Wylie, southeastern PA group chair, Sierra Club – PA Chapter; and David Taylor, president, Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association.



About the House Democratic Policy Committee

Rep. Mike Sturla is chair of the House Democratic Policy Committee. The Policy Committee holds public hearings and meetings across the state, and serves as the catalyst to enacting major policy initiatives put forth by members of the House Democratic Caucus.

You can find details about upcoming hearings, hearing testimony from previous hearings and Chairman Sturla's Policy Point of the Day by visiting www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee.

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