

THE POLICY RECAP

A Summary of House Democratic Policy Committee Meetings.....January 9 – 11, 2018

House Democrats have a Plan4PA, a new way forward that puts people first with good jobs, quality schools and fair taxes. The House Democratic Policy Committee held a series of hearings to further discuss the Plan4PA's focus on fair taxes, putting people first and good jobs.



Additional information about the Plan4PA is available at planforpa.pahouse.com.



Rep. Maureen Madden Property Taxes East Stroudsburg | January 9

State Rep. Maureen Madden hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee public forum at the Dansbury Depot where residents had the opportunity to discuss property tax concerns with state and local officials. Tax reform is a main focus in House Democrats' Plan4PA.

Madden requested the forum format to give residents an open dialogue on reasonable reform efforts that could bring relief to homeowners while still meeting community needs.



Rep. Peter Schweyer

Health Care Access

Allentown | January 10

State Rep. Peter Schweyer hosted a public hearing at the Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network's Health and Technology Center to discuss health care access in Pennsylvania. Testifiers and legislators discussed the importance of investing in quality health care access to preventative, mental health, vision and dental care. Schweyer also discussed the economic boost that health care investments will have on the job market and economy in Allentown and all of Pennsylvania.

The committee heard testimony from:

- John Kristel, president and CEO, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network;
- Dr. David Burnmeister, chairman of Department of Emergency and Hospital Medicine, Lehigh Valley Health Network;
- Alan Jennings, executive director, Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley Inc.;
- Melissa Miranda, executive director, Neighborhood Health Centers of the Lehigh Valley;
- Deb Gilbert, director of the Parish Nursing/Community Outreach Department, Sacred Heart Healthcare System;
- Kelly Berk, network director of maternal child health initiatives for Nurse-Family Partnership, St. Luke's University Health Network;
- Maggie Murphy, director, NAMI Lehigh Valley;
- Dr. Michelle Wasno, dentist, Wasno Dental; and
- Dr. Mark Dalton, optometrist, Allentown Vision Care.



Rep. Mike Schlossberg Where are the Jobs? Allentown | January 11

State Rep. Mike Schlossberg hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee roundtable discussion at PA CareerLink Lehigh Valley in Allentown to talk about current employment issues in the Lehigh Valley and across the state. Local policy experts and committee members discussed future workforce development needs.



Discussion participants included:

- Nancy Dischinat, executive director, Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Board;
- Michelle Griffin Young, executive vice president of Government and External Affairs, Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce;
- Don Cunningham, president and CEO, Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corp.;
- Anthony Durante, program manager of Bridgeworks Enterprise Center, Allentown Economic Development Corp.;
- Diane Lewis, manager of Business Development Services, Manufacturers Resource Center;
- Edward Hozza Jr., mayor, Whitehall Township; and
- Chris Naylor, legislative and political director, UFCW Local 1776.



Visit www.pahouse.com/policycommittee for hearing testimony, video and photos.



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.

Members of the Policy Committee

Rep. Mike Sturla <i>Chairman</i>	Rep. Donna Bullock	Rep. Maureen E. Madden
Rep. Ryan A. Bizzarro <i>Vice Chair</i>	Rep. Thomas R. Caltagirone	Rep. Joseph F. Markosek
Rep. Kevin Boyle <i>Vice Chair</i>	Rep. Paul Costa	Rep. Dan Miller
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	Rep. Robert L. Freeman	Rep. Brian K. Sims
	Rep. Edward C. Gaaney	Rep. Pam Snyder
	Rep. Neal P. Goodman	Rep. Jared G. Solomon
	Rep. Michael K. Hanna Sr.	Rep. W. Curtis Thomas
	Rep. Patrick J. Harkins	Rep. Greg Vitali
	Rep. Patty Kim	Rep. Perry Warren
	Rep. William C. Kortz	Rep. Jake Wheatley
	Rep. Leanne Krueger-Braneky	Rep. Rosita C. Youngblood
	Rep. Mark A. Longietti	