



Frank Burns

State Representative

72nd Legislative District

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BURNS PROTECTS LOCAL BUSINESSES

BACKS LOCAL PHARMACY IN FIGHT AGAINST PBM

As Martella's Pharmacy battles a greedy pharmacy benefit manager over its ability to fill prescriptions, Rep. Burns has stepped up on behalf of the local pharmacy. He has introduced a bill to limit the decision-making of PBMs and asked the governor's office to review the matter and refer it to Attorney General David Sunday for investigation into possible antitrust violations and conflict of interest involving Express Scripts.



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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

February 4, 2026

The Honorable Josh Shapiro
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Shapiro,

I am writing to bring to your attention the actions of Express Scripts abruptly terminating Martella's Pharmacy operations. This has resulted in devastating consequences for our community, including the loss of patient care, confusion for seniors and Medicaid recipients, and the effective elimination of a trusted local healthcare provider from its community.

Now, years later, Express Scripts is still terminating Martella's entire pharmacy network at the same rate, resulting in devastating consequences: a reported 60-percent loss of revenue, loss of patient care, confusion for seniors and Medicaid recipients, and the effective elimination of a trusted local healthcare provider from its community.

What makes this situation especially concerning is the broader pattern it reflects. PBMs like Express Scripts are not neutral administrators. They control access to insurance networks while also having financial ties to mail-order pharmacies and national chains that directly benefit when independent pharmacies are pushed out. This raises serious concerns about conflicts of interest, market manipulation, and anti-competitive conduct.

Federal Trade Commission findings and Pennsylvania's own legislative actions—including Act 77—have already acknowledged that PBM practices disproportionately harm independent pharmacies and reduce patient choice. If this termination is allowed to stand, it sets a dangerous precedent: PBMs could eliminate independent pharmacies statewide by resurrecting minor technicalities and past issues, replacing them with out-of-state corporate providers and mail-order services—regardless of community impact or patient need.

“Independent pharmacies are cornerstones of our communities. Allowing PBMs to weaponize their market power against them undermines public trust and harms the very people our healthcare system is meant to serve.”

- Rep. Burns

“The consequences for pharmacies like Martella's and their customers are devastating in these cases.... I'm not going to sit by and let that happen without putting up a fight in Harrisburg.”

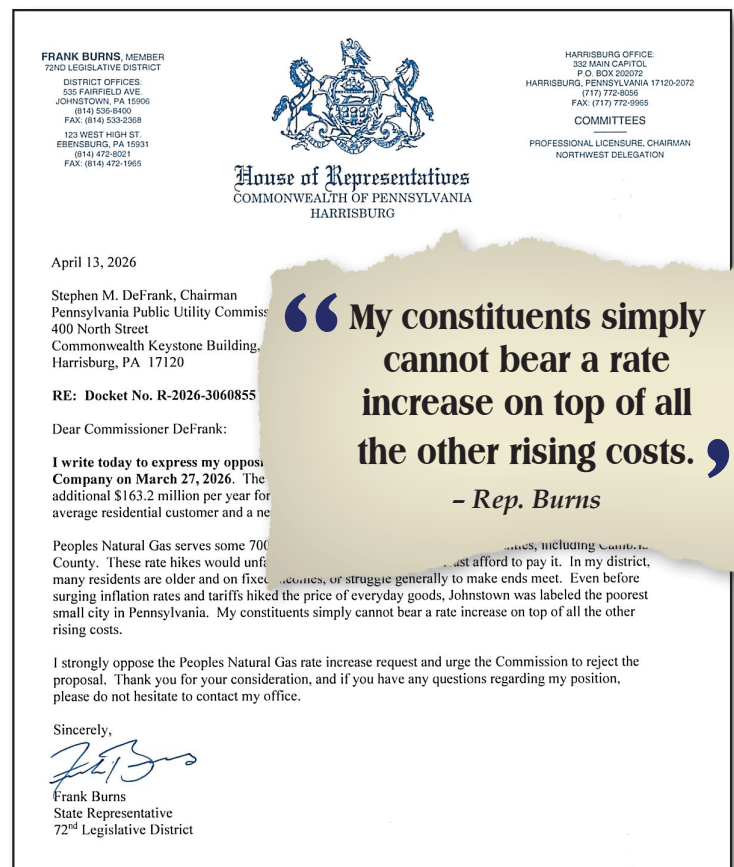
- Rep. Burns

A FIGHTER FOR CAMBRIA COUNTY!

BURNS BATTLES UTILITIES ON RATE HIKES

Whenever a utility company proposes unfair rate increases, Rep. Burns stands up for Cambria County consumers. Recently, Burns announced his strong opposition to a rate hike proposed by Peoples Natural Gas Company, saying it would unfairly burden residents who can least afford it. His letter to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission makes it clear that many local residents are older and living on fixed incomes and cannot handle another rate increase.

Rep. Burns' opposition to the Peoples Gas rate hike is just the latest example of him working for the benefit of Cambria County consumers. He also opposed the rate hike by FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company and worked diligently to prevent the rate increase by Greater Johnstown Water Authority. Rep. Burns' track record of fighting for consumers speaks for itself.



BURNS SEEKS COUNTY ELECTION REFORMS

Citing **DOCUMENTED ISSUES** in Cambria County from the 2024 election, Rep. Burns is calling for new election reforms to **RESTORE VOTER TRUST**.

1 IN 2024 ✓ Voting machines failed to scan ✓ Eroded trust & mass confusion ✓ Judge extended voting hours ✓ Final results took days to hand count duplicate ballots WE CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN	2 COUNTY KNEW NUMBERS DIDN'T MATCH 12/4/24 – Internal email One month after the election “We are working on pollbooks... comparing our totals with the votes cast the day of the election. I don't know if that is even possible to have every district to work out correctly...” - Nichole Burkhardt, Cambria County Election Director	3 BALLOTS FOUND “IN THE BACK” – NOT ENTERED Internal email 12/4/24 “I did come across some provisional ballots in the back that were not entered by Marianne in the sure system” - Nichole Burkhardt, Cambria County Election Director
4 MORE RED FLAGS A representative from the state Attorney General's office called responding to an issue on Election Day related to a staff member - Email Ron Repack, Former Cambria County Solicitor Questions remain Poll books? Chain of Custody? Staff Conduct?	5 EVEN AFTER 2024... The same mistakes happened in 2025 ✗ County misprinted ballots again in the 2025 primary ✗ County assured fixes were made but they weren't ✗ Public confidence took another hit	6 This isn't about politics. It's about protecting every vote. REP. BURNS HAS PROPOSED A PLAN TO FIX THE SYSTEM.

**BURNS BRINGS HOME \$415 MILLION+
SINCE TAKING OFFICE**



**LOWER YODER TOWNSHIP
\$500,000**



**WESTMONT HILLTOP
SCHOOL DISTRICT
\$1,000,000**



**EAST TAYLOR TOWNSHIP
\$203,848**



**NANTY GLO BOROUGH
\$318,240**



**BROWNSTOWN BOROUGH
\$50,000**



**EAST CONEMAUGH BOROUGH
\$163,000**

**GRANT MONEY FLOWS TO EVERY
PART OF DISTRICT!**



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“ I’ve never forgotten where I’m from,
how I was raised, or who I represent.
– Rep. Burns

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BURNS PROTECTS TAXPAYERS!

- » REP. BURNS **REFUSES** A STATE CAR!
- » REP. BURNS **REFUSES** A STATE CELL PHONE!
- » REP. BURNS **REFUSES** A PAYCHECK DURING BUDGET IMPASSES!
- » AND...REP. BURNS **REFUSES** TAX HIKE IN THE STATE BUDGET!
- » REP. BURNS' **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY** HAS SAVED MORE THAN **\$300,000** IN TAXPAYER MONEY!



**REP. BURNS HAS NEVER VOTED
TO RAISE YOUR TAXES!**